



BARRY AND FLORENCE
FRIEDBERG
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
NATHAN & MURIEL GLANZ CAMPUS

CUBA JOURNEY



Join us on an extraordinary journey to Cuba. Meet and bring support to the Jewish communities of Cuba and its people. Escorted by Miriam Levinson.

NOV 2-7, 2023 OR NOV 30-DEC 5, 2023

\$2525* Per person double occupancy

Single supplement add \$399

\$200 tips and taxes will be added to final billing

LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS

*AIRFARE INCLUDED FROM JFK TO HAVANA

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO



15 Neil Court, Oceanside, NY, 11572
www.friedbergjcc.org · 516-766-4341





CUBA JOURNEY

Select from 2 dates – November 2-7, 2023, or November 30 – December 5, 2023

Cuba, a Caribbean gem, is a cultural oasis of warm, generous people. You will be inspired by soulful art, musical rhythms and vibrant dance. Join us at this very special time on an extraordinary journey to Cuba. Meet and bring support to the Jewish communities of Cuba and its people. Escorted by Miriam Levinson.

Your Journey includes:



- ◆ Round trip airfare from EWR or JFK to Havana on American or United Airlines
- ◆ Five nights Havana, Deluxe Aston Hotel
- ◆ Baggage handling at Cuba hotel
- ◆ Buffet breakfast daily in Havana
- ◆ Five dinners in Havana
- ◆ Two lunches in Havana
- ◆ Medical and accidental insurance in Cuba (pre-existing excluded)
- ◆ Services of a licensed English-speaking Cuban guide
- ◆ Deluxe motor coach transportation in Cuba
- ◆ Visits to Museums
- ◆ 2 lectures with well-known speakers: Life in Cuba today
- ◆ Cultural exchanges with community Leaders
- ◆ Visits with artists
- ◆ Comprehensive program including Jewish highlights: Patronato -Beth Shalom, Centro Hebreo Sefaradi, Jewish Cemetery in Guanabacoa
- ◆ Home hospitality with a Cuban Family
- ◆ Led by Miriam Levinson
- ◆ Trip Cancellation Protection Insurance available

Price

\$2499*

Per person double occupancy
Single supplement add \$399
\$200 tips and taxes will be added to final billing.

LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS

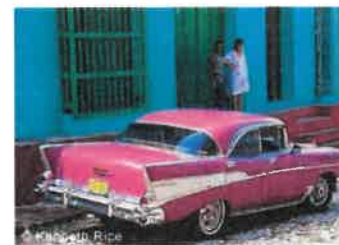
For additional information, please contact:

MARILYN WOLFE at
248.432.5471

Email: mwolfe@jccdet.org

Or MIRIAM LEVINSON at
847.882.8881

Email: miriam@great-time-tours.com



PLEASE COMPLETE FORM ON REVERSE SIDE

CUBA JOURNEY 2023

Terms and Conditions

Reservations and Cancellations: Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis and must be accompanied with a \$600 per person deposit. All cancellations must be in writing and are subject to a non-refundable \$200 per person fee. Cancellations received 70-60 days prior to departure are subject to a fee of 30% of Program cost per person; 59-45 days prior to departure are subject to a fee of 75% of Program cost per person; 44-0 days prior to departure are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. All airline ticket

Program Cancellation: Jewish Community Center, its management, staff, officers, representatives, and agent Great Time Tours hereinafter referred to as JCC reserve the right to cancel any program for lack of sufficient participation.

Program Price: Program price as stated includes features as outlined and is valid up to 60 days prior to departure date; thereafter, program participation is subject to availability and possible price increase.

Program Cost: Program cost is based on present tariffs and local and federal taxes. JCC reserve the right to change the price of any program up to the time of departure.

What is not included: Incidental hotel charges such as telephone calls and room service, sightseeing attractions listed as optional, meals not listed, tips unless specifically noted in the program, items of a personal nature and tips for services other than those listed for each specific itinerary.

Trip Cancellation Insurance: In order to protect the investment in your upcoming trip a group insurance plan will be sent to you upon receipt of registration and deposit. Pre-existing conditions exclusion will be waived if the protection plan is purchased at or before the final payment due date for the trip, for the full non-refundable cost of the trip and you are not disabled from travel at the time you pay the plan cost. For additional information, contact Stu in IL 847.882.8881; outside IL 800.624.2947.

Ability to Travel: Participant(s) certify that they do not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would interfere with the program enjoyment of others or pose a hazard to them or others.

Travelers Needing Special Assistance: JCC can make no determination of your fitness to travel or guarantee your ability to successfully manage a tour. If in doubt, please consult your doctor. JCC cannot guarantee specific seating, room or meal accommodations. Persons needing individual assistance for walking, dining, or other personal needs must be accompanied by an able companion and must notify JCC in writing at the time of booking. Certain trips and features may not be wheelchair accessible. If you require a wheelchair, please advise JCC at the time of booking. In international destinations, JCC cannot guarantee wheelchair accessibility.

Liability: All itineraries are subject to change without prior notice. Participant waives any and all claims of action against the JCC for damages, loss, injury, accident or death incurred by any person in connection with this program. In making arrangements for accommodations, meals, transportation, and other services included in the program, JCC are acting only as an agent for the following suppliers of travel services, i.e. airlines, hotels, ground handlers, transfer companies, restaurants, bus companies, and other suppliers, and is not liable for any accident, injury, damage, loss, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any company or person(s) engaged in conveying the passengers or carrying out the arrangements of the program. No responsibility is accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, weather, strike, wars and other causes.

Travel Documents: Participants will receive program documents approximately 10-14 days prior to trip departure provided full payment has been received. Documents may include program itinerary, airline and hotel information, clothing suggestions, bag tags and any other helpful hints. JCC should be notified in writing of any change in home address.

Luggage Handling: Luggage handling and portorage is included for a maximum of one piece of luggage per person at hotels. Carry-on luggage is the traveler's own responsibility.

Deviations: An administrative charge of \$150 per person will be assessed to any program deviation, plus the cost of the deviation.

Final Payment: In order to maintain the lowest price, all prices quoted herein are based on payment by cash or checks. A 3.5% processing charge will be added for final payment by credit card. Final payment is due 70 days before departure upon receipt of final invoice.

By my signature and deposit, I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to the Terms and Conditions above.

→ Please sign here _____
(form cannot be accepted without signature) Date

Please complete the information below and send entire document with a \$600 per person deposit to:

Great Time Tours % Cuba Coordinator

1140 Nottingham Lane ♦ Hoffman Estates, IL 60169-2616 ♦ Phone: 847.882.8881

Please register me/us for the Cuba Journey 2023 checked below

November 2 – 7, 2023 November 30 – December 5, 2023

Occupancy: Single Double – check preference 2 beds King bed or similar

PLEASE PRINT

Legal Name(s): _____ Date of birth: _____
(As it appears on your passport)

Roommate: _____ Relationship: _____ Date of birth: _____

Legal address*: _____ Apt / Unit: _____
(where you live at least 6 mo. and 1 day each year)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

E-mail address: _____ Mobile: _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____ Sec. _____

(NOTE: a 3.5% processing charge will be added for FINAL PAYMENT by credit card)

(Please make checks payable to Great Time Tours)

*If you will reside at a 2nd address prior to your trip departure date please include the address and dates you will reside there on an attached piece of paper.

CUBA JOURNEY ITINERARY

November 2 – 7, 2023 November 30 – December 5, 2023

Day 1, Thursday

Morning flight to Havana. On arrival to Havana and after clearing customs and immigration, we proceed to our hotel. En route you will pass neighborhoods that tell the spirit of Havana's people and provides a firsthand look about living in Cuba today. You will see children play kickball on an elevated pedestrian oasis in the middle of wide avenues while classic American cars cruise by. See students close their books and unwind with friends along the Malecón. Our hotel, the Aston, was recently built facing the famous Malecon.(waterfront). The hotel provides comfort and an elegant, modern design. The Aston an outdoor infinity pool, several restaurants and a wellness center. Havana is a city that has remained just as it looked more than fifty years ago.

On our way into Havana, we make a stop at **Revolution Square** and learn about Jose Marti, Cuba's National Hero and his relationship with the American Jewish Community.

We have a panoramic overview of Havana and hotel check in.

Dinner at a private restaurant (Paladar) and overnight at the hotel.

Day 2 Friday

Breakfast served daily at our hotel.

In order to understand the scope of the Jewish life in Cuba, we begin our journey at the ships' terminal starting with a **walking tour of Old Havana and the Jewish Quarter**. Old Havana has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO and will remind you of cities in Europe with its beautiful architectural elements. During the walking tour of the four main squares **Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco, Plaza Vieja and Plaza de la Catedral**; you will gain insight about the families that forged the Jewish Community of Cuba and the present members of that community. We will do two squares today and two squares on another day. This is a great opportunity to meet the Cuban people as they go about their daily lives.

Lunch at a Private Restaurant (Paladar)

Afterwards, we go to **Beth Shalom Temple** to bring donations. Built in 1952, the synagogue is located in the Vedado district of Havana that was once a center of Jewish activity. Much of the original building was sold, and only part remains in Jewish hands today. Extensive repairs were undertaken in the 1990s with help from the American Jewish Joint **Distribution** Committee and wealthy Jewish donors from Miami. The building actually looks brand new. Today it contains the main community center and library with a nursery and educational activities to help bring back the youth into the Jewish community. We will meet with a **community leaders** to learn about the Jewish community in the island.

This evening, we return to Beth Shalom for services and have a festive dinner at our hotel.

Day 3 Saturday

In 1908, the first Sephardic immigrants arrived in Cuba, mostly from Turkey, and to a lesser degree, from Syria and Greece. In 1914, the first Sephardic synagogue was founded. Its name was Shevet Achim Hebrew Union. It functioned until 1995, when it became necessary to close its doors due to its state of disrepair. Successive waves of immigration took place around the First and Second World Wars. At the time this happened, there were in existence in the capital of Cuba two Sephardic synagogues. One of them, founded in 1954, the Sephardic Hebrew Center of Cuba, is still functioning presently. It is the only Sephardic synagogue in Havana. Presently, approximately 65% of the total Jewish population of the country is Sephardic. We will go to the **Sephardic Hebrew Center and meet with Samuel Zagalov, vice president** of the congregation followed by fellowship and interaction with members of community.

We continue to a **local market**. With help from your escort and guide, you will be able to interact with the vendors and shoppers and get a feel for real life.

Lunch on your own.

Afterwards, we visit the **Compas Dance of Cuba** to see a rehearsal. The group uses percussion, African rhythms, flamenco and classical ballet creating a new and different Cuban beat. You will be able to talk to the dancers about their training and dreams for the future.

We continue with a visit to the home and studio of **José Rodriquez Fuster**. Born in August 1946, Fuster is a Cuban naïve artist specializing in ceramics, painting, drawing, engraving and graphic design. This winner of many awards with collections in prominent museums has made a major contribution over 10 years of rebuilding and decorating the fishing town of Jaimanitas in the outskirts of Havana, where he lives. Jaimanitas is now a unique work of public art where Fuster has decorated over 80 houses with ornate murals and domes to suit the personality of his neighbors. Nowadays, his art is a cherished part of Cuban culture. He sponsors this project by the sale of his paintings and ceramics.

We return to our hotel to freshen up **dinner** at a Havana Paladar.

Day 4 Sunday

Breakfast followed by an interactive **discussion about life in Cuba today**.

Afterwards, we visit the two squares in the Old city that were not covered on the first day: **Plaza Vieja** and **Plaza de la Catedral**. Saturday is a great day to mingle with the locals in the area. We will make a stop at a mothers' at risk residence and interact with its residents.

We go to view Cuban art exhibits at the **National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana**. **At the Art Museum, A docent of the museum will take you on a journey of the many facets of Cuban art**. Founded on February 13, 1913 and having made frequent moves it was finally placed on the block once occupied by the old Colon Market. In 1954, the new Palacio de Bellas Artes was opened, designed by the architect Rodriguez Pichardo. The museum is dedicated exclusively to housing Cuba Art collections and has rooms dedicated to landscape, religious subjects and the Costumbrismo narrative scenes of Cuban life. A modernist sculpture by noted Cuban artist Rita Lonja stands outside the main entrance.

Lunch on your own.

Ride about **Havana in vintage American convertibles**. **It's a return to the 1950's when there were about as many American convertibles in Havana as in New York**. The cars will take you to the Forest of Havana and drive down the fabled 5th Avenue of Miramar and along the Malecón.

Then it is on to the **Hotel Nacional**. The hotel is a historic luxury hotel located on the Malecón in the middle of Vedado, Havana, Cuba. It stands on Taganana Hill a few metres from the sea, and offers a view of Havana Harbour, the seawall and the city. It stands out due to its refined elegance and its ancient splendor, which since 1930 has attracted a large number of illustrious guests. Enjoy the view as we sip a "Mojito".

Day 5 Monday

We start our day at the **Jewish Cemetery in Guanabacoa**. We will clean up graves and help to restore graves in the children's section. Those who are unable to do physical work may recite Kaddish at graves. A stop will be made at the Holocaust Memorial inside the cemetery.

Visit a **typical Cuban home** and learn the story of this house and its residents, past and present.

Included lunch today.

En route back Havana, we go to **Hemingway's House**. In 1940 Hemingway, with his new wife Martha, purchased a home outside Havana, Cuba. He would live there for the next twenty years. The Hemingways named the site Finca Vigia, or "lookout farm". Hemingway stayed in Cuba longer than many Americans chose to after relations between Cuba and the United States began to deteriorate. He fished extensively aboard his boat, Pilar, and enjoyed the island lifestyle, hanging out in Havana, and entertaining guests at the Finca. View his home, with many original furnishings, hunting trophies, and personal artifacts.

Farewell dinner at a Paladar.

Day 6 Tuesday

Following breakfast a bit more of touring and depart in the early afternoon for Jose Marti Airport for our flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change without notice.