



and



present

## Experience the Traditions and Beauty of Cuba October 9-18, 2020

### October 9

Fly to Havana

Welcome to Cuba! Our first stop will be Revolution Square, the epicenter of political and governmental buildings of the Cuban government, and the site where millions listened to speeches given by Fidel Castro.

We have a visit with the Jewish Community Center and Adela Dworkin and find out the history and the needs of the community.

Part of your cost includes covering Shabbat dinner for the congregation.

### October 10

Walking tour of Old Havana-View the diverse architecture of the city. Participants will walk through Havana's oldest neighborhood to learn about its historic, architectural, and cultural significance. The area was declared a World Heritage Site in 1982 by UNESCO. Learn about the City Historian's massive efforts to restore Old Havana buildings, attract tourism and new investment, and improve social services for local residents. The group will explore the four main plazas of the 18th-century colony: Plaza de Armas, which originally housed the main administrative buildings of the colony; Plaza Vieja, the oldest of the plazas; Plaza de la Cathedral, site of the baroque cathedral of Havana; and Plaza de San Francisco, site of the basilica of San Francisco and the old Havana stock exchange.

-Lunch at Altier

Murraleando Arts project where we will have an opportunity to learn from one of the artists- either pottery or other. Visit the home studio of the well-known Cuban Photographer Roberto Salas to learn about his remarkable life documenting the

Cuban Revolution and its leaders like Fidel Castro, Raul Castro, Che Guevara and Camilo Cienfuegos. Check his interview out with Anthony Bourdain's visit to Cuba. <https://www.tvguide.com/tvshows/anthony-bourdain-no-reservations/episode-9-season-7/cuba/191382/>

Go to San Jose de Almancen-- one of the largest crafts hub.

Optional cultural activity : Music at a local hangout Centro Cultural Bertolt Brecht

### October 11

Yoga class

Visit Art School Learn about Arts education. Lunch and cocktail making class at Jardin de los milagros. For our first meal in a paladar (privately owned restaurant), we'll eat in a patio with vine covered trellises and meet each other, while sharing a tasty Cuban lunch. Tour the hydroponic garden and the bee hives on the roof where the owners grow herbs and vegetables for the restaurant.

Fine Arts Museum( Or the Museum of the Revolution) Bellas Artes Museum houses the largest collection of contemporary Cuban art, as well as revolutionary and colonial collections. Led by different art specialists, participants will be introduced to the different genres of Cuban art. Here we will learn about Cuban visual arts.

EVE Free for the Fabrica de ARTE

### October 12

A walking tour of the farmlands and crops is included today. Learn more about the simple lifestyle here and see first hand the farmers who grow tobacco for some of the most expensive cigars. Vinales is a small and charming rural village. Later head to an ecological farm for lunch. We will also learn how cigars are rolled ( and give a shot at it yourself. )

After lunch we will have a free time, up to 2 hours, for either horseback riding or biking through the area. Here we get a chance to see the countryside of Cuba, and how their traditional ways of farming and living have been maintained throughout the years. Return Havana .

Evening free live music /Jazz (or ballet )

### October 13

In the morning we'll have a special salsa dance class. These teachers can teach even the most non-dancer type.

Community arts projects Nicolas Guillen

Lunch

Arts studio visit with Diana Balboa. Amongst artists in Cuba, Diana is seen as an icon, a figure of resilience and strength, and a feminist. She is strong-opinioned, thoughtful, hard-working, stubborn, welcoming, listening, and full of love. Diana is an artist who says that her goal is to allow her audience to "see music in her work".

Prodanza ballet school visit

Evening free live music venue

#### October 14

Check out of hotel and depart Cienfuegos

Leave for Trinidad making a stop off in the city of Cienfuegos.

Upon arrival about 11:30 am we will enjoy a city tour of Cienfuegos known as the Pearl of the South. The group will learn how the local architecture reflected the prosperity of sugar, tobacco and fruit trading, as well as about the 19th-century European influence.

Lunch at Casa del Chef in Cienfuegos with a buffet lunch prepared by local chefs to highlight typical cuisine of the Cienfuegos area

Visit and exchange with the Cienfuegos Choral Group for a special rehearsal and briefing with Honey Morales at the Tomas Teddy Theatre.

Exchange with the Hebrew Community of Cienfuegos

Check in to hotel (Hotel Jagua) and evening free

Dinner Reservation at paladar Casa Prado

#### October 15

Check out of Cienfuegos Hotel

Benny More Art school visit in Cienfuegos. Benny More melded together and mastered so many Cuban musical genres — mambo, son, guaracha, son montuno, bolero, cha cha cha — that he is considered perhaps the most influential musician and popular singer the island has ever produced. His prominence was at its height in the 1940s and 1950s, and by the time he died in 1963 at the young age of 43, Moré was known as El Bárbaro del Ritmo (The Master of Rhythm). "His talent shined in the Cuban musical world," said Francisco Cruz Veloz, a Cuban musicologist and artist.

Then depart for Trinidad. Trinidad, Cuba is quaint colonial town nestled between the mountains and the sea. A UNESCO site, known for its great preservation of colonial architecture and art. Still to this day it is home to many artists, architects and historians. Making it a very attractive town to visit

Enjoy with a guided city tour of this popular colonial town. We will receive a panorama of Architecture and Restoration in Provincial Cuban-architecture, urban planning, colonial and revolutionary history as we visit various major sites throughout Trinidad. We have time to engage with Cubans at their art studios, galleries and a local cigar factory where participants will meet with Cuban artists and find out first-hand how artist negotiate between the tourist market, a socialist economy.

Check in and overnight at the La Ronda hotel (or las Cuevas requested .)

Afternoon visit with Lazaro Niebla Castro, a humble well known sculptor who makes his work from recycled materials.

Dinner reservation for those that like at Sol Ananda.

Evening optional cultural activity at the Casa de Trova

October 16

Trinidad

Morning visit with artist Yudit Vital Faife and the Colonial Architecture museum. An amazing Art Gallery in Trinidad!!! You can enjoy and buy one of the best art in the center south part of Cuba. Yudit Vidal Faife is the principal artist and studied in the Cuban Fine Arts University . She has represented her country in many national and international events around the world.

Lunch

May day! celebrate activities in Town or enjoy coastal activities and exercise at the beach of Playa Ancon.

October 17

Havana

Check out and return to Havana with a lunch break along the way.

Film school EICTV or UNeAC, or exchange with filmmaker.

Check in Hotel Inglaterra

Classic car ride along the Malceon before coming back for our Farewell Dinner

October 18

Farewell

Inclusions: The price of this tour includes Visa to Cuba, double room accommodations in a combination of Casas Particulares (guest houses), 3 or 4 (in Havana), star hotels, program activities, transportation to and from all programmed activities, 2 meals daily, qualified trip leaders and guides, honoraria for speakers, donations for hosts; programmed entrance fees in the day, and base tips during included meals.

- All confirmations in the programs.
- Lodging in 3 or 4 star hotels

*This Journey is Powered by ...*

