



## Cuba and Its People Through the Photographer's Lens

October 4 – 11, 2022

October 4 Havana D

Arrival in Jose Marti International Airport.

3:00 pm Bus transfer and check in to your Casas Particulares in Old Havana, where we will enjoy our welcome mojito and some downtime to rest or explore the historic district.

6:00 pm Meet and Greet Orientation meeting with Arturo Mesa, your local Cuban guide, and Altruvistas program coordinator Cicely Sanchez on general Cuba travel information and logistics, as well as an overview of the program.

7:30 p.m. Welcome Dinner at **San Cristobal Paladar** then continue through Old Havana for an evening of exploration and night shooting.

October 5 Havana B, L

Am Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Meet with **Cuban Architect Miguel Coyula** for an overview of the history and development of the Capital.

11:00am Enjoy a **guided walking tour of Old Havana**. Learn about the Master Plan for Restoration of Old Havana, including the importance and use of tourism revenue to restore neglected buildings and provide social services to Havana residents, the importance of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, national patrimony, and urban planning.

1:00pm Lunch at a Paladar in Old Havana.

2:30 pm Walk to **Fototeca**, the Cuban photo archives and photography center. Meet with the head of Fototeca and staff.

3:30 pm Continue to the **Camera Oscura** and afterwards exchange with Cuban artists.

5:00pm Free time to rest.

8:00pm Reservation at la Tierra at the FAC.

10:00 pm Enjoy a visit to **the Fabrica De Arte .**

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**October 6** **Havana** **B, L,**

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am Check out of accommodations and continue on to Viñales valley. The Viñales valley is encircled by mountains and its landscape is interspersed with dramatic rocky outcrops. Traditional techniques are still in use for agricultural production, particularly of tobacco. Sustainable, organic food production and the implications for health will be presented. The quality of this cultural landscape is enhanced by the vernacular architecture of its farms and villages, where a rich multi-ethnic society survives, illustrating the cultural development of the islands of the Caribbean, and of Cuba. In Viñales we will enjoy the beautiful sites and enjoy a walking farm tour, including a visit to a tobacco farm. We will horseback ride in the valley, meeting and talking with farmers. Upon arrival in Viñales we will visit the center and the garden of Soledad and lunch in the organic farm El Paraiso with view over the valley (typical farmers kitchen with several options). In the afternoon we will walk in the valley of Viñales passing by the beautiful mogotes and exchange with tobacco farmers.

Dinner and evening is Free for Joe's Photo review

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**October 7** **Viñales** **B, L**

Am Breakfast

Am The Viñales Valley, containing the most spectacular scenery in Cuba and some of the most interesting and varied geological formations on the island valley is particularly famous for its great freestanding rock formations called mogotes. We will have time to walk and enjoy walking these local agricultural areas.

1:00pm Lunch at a local Paladar

3:00pm Visit the Cueva el Indico, used by the Guanahatabey Amerindians as a burial site in ancient time, and as a refuse from the Spaniards for both Indians and Black slaves alike. We'll take a short boat ride on the subterranean river running through the cave. Or visit to Mural de la Prehistoire, a huge painting on the side of a mogote (your choice).

Next you'll have some free time to explore Viñales Village at your leisure: its open-air craft market, Parquet Marti, town church, and other interesting sites of this charming colonial hamlet.

Evening is free for dinner and local cultural options.

**October 8** Viñales/Havana **B, L**

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8:00am Breakfast check out and return to la Havana

10:00am On our return we will stop at Las Terrazas Biosphere Reserve in Pinar del Rio province In the Rosario Mountains, visit the town of Las Terrazas, an ecological community and environmental education center that has been declared a UNESCO bio-reserve area. We will meet with community residents who are working in the reserve. Meet with local artists and learn about the community's unique architecture along with visits to a school and local clinic to meet with doctors.

12:30pm Lunch at Romero's a unique gourmet vegetarian restaurant in Cuba.

3:30pm Enjoy a walking tour of Centro Havana, to experience everyday life and diverse architecture with Cuban photographer *Nestor Marti*.

Free time to shoot Old Havana or activities TBA.

5:00pm Check into our casas.

7:00 pm Reservation at local Paladar Jardin de los Milagros and Photo review with Joe.

**October 9<sup>th</sup>** Havana **B, L**

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9:00am Day by Classic Cars! This morning we will leisurely make our way to stop and shoot.

11:00am Optional visit to explore contemporary Cuban Arts at the Bellas Artes Museum.

12:30 pm Enjoy a curated lunch in a Cuban home.

3:00pm Exchange with Cuban artist and photographer *Alfredo Sarabia* (and son of well-known photo documentarian *Alfredo Sarabia*).

5:00pm Evening is free for dinner and local cultural events TBA.

**October 10** Havana **B, D**

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9:00am Day 2 by Classic Cars!

10:00am Photo walk with Joe

12:30pm Lunch reservation at at a local Paladar

2:00pm Enjoy a private overview of Cuban photographer and exchange with Leysis Quesada,

4:00pm Exchange, dance and learn about the power of creativity with a local community arts project, Murraleando.

8:00 pm Farewell dinner celebration

*-FYI - on this day we may need to add in time for COVID testing back to the USA!*

**October 11** **Havana** **B.**  
am Breakfast and check out to depart

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