



Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Nina S. Roberts:
A People-to-People Adventure in Cuba
January 16-25, 2024

Tuesday, January 16 **Arrival and Orientation** **D**

Morning	Morning arrival at Jose Marti International Airport
Early afternoon	We ask that the group/individuals arrive by 2 pm
4:00 pm	Group check-in at the Grand Aston Hotel
5:00 pm	Welcome cocktail & orientation meeting
7:30 pm	Welcome dinner at El Torre
Dinner	
Overnight Havana	

Wednesday, January 17

History and Orientation to Cuba

B, L

Morning	Breakfast at your leisure at the hotel
9:00 am	Lecture by Cuban architect Miguel Coyula (hotel): the history and development of Havana This briefing will provide you will a powerful overview and understanding of key social, economic, and development milestones that will help you understand the changing realities in Cuba today.
11:00 am	A guided Walking City Tour of Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site Delegates also have time to engage with Cubans at their art studios, galleries, and markets where participants will meet with Cuban artists and find out firsthand how artists negotiate between the tourist market, a socialist economy, and new opportunities for individual entrepreneurship. Visit the four major historical squares of Cuba. Historian's massive efforts to restore Old Havana buildings, attract tourism and new investment, and improve social services for residents. See buildings and homes in different stages of reconstruction, and meet with neighborhood residents. Learn about how tourism impacts the Cuban economy.
1:00 pm	Lunch in old Havana at Hemingway's old dive the Bodequita del Medio; continue the City Tour
4:00 pm	Engage with Cuban photographer Roberto Chile . Hear his incredible story documenting the Cuban Revolution since 1956
Evening	Dinner is free tonight but we will make a reservation so we can engage with one another.
9:30 pm	Enjoy live jazz at the Zora y El Cuervo (included but you will cab to get back to the hotel when done).
Overnight Havana	

Thursday, January 18

Arts & Education

B, L

Morning	Breakfast at your leisure at the hotel
9:30 am	Visit to the Bellas Arte Museum
12:30 pm	Lunch at El Aljibe and our City Tour of Modern Havana by bus continues.
2:30 pm	Exchange with ISA the Fine Arts School and with students there or another performance arts school.
5:00 pm	Optional visit to the home of Malia for a rum tasting & to engage with local neighbors about everyday life in Cuba (Orestes Quesada & Eduardo Santos)
Evening	Dinner is free tonight
Overnight Havana	

Friday, January 19

Cienfuegos

B, L

Morning	Breakfast at your leisure at the hotel (but before 9 am!)
9:00 am	Basics of Salsa Dance Class after breakfast and checking out of our hotel.
Late morning	<p>Following our morning activity, we'll continue our journey east to the beautiful town of Cienfuegos. This winsome, seafront city has such an ethereal allure that it's known as the "Pearl of the South." After lunch, we set out to walk part of the city with its charming waterfront and colonnaded streets.</p> <p>Visit and exchange with the Cienfuegos Choral Group for a special rehearsal and briefing with Honey Morales at the Tomas Teddy Theatre.</p> <p>Then we will continue onto Trinidad, a World Heritage Site located in Cuba's south-central region. The group will learn about the history of this town and how the local architecture reflected the prosperity of sugar, tobacco, and fruit trading, as well as about 19th-century European influence.</p>
Late afternoon	Check into our casas particulares in Trinidad .
Dinner & evening	Dinner and Evening are yours to explore! The group will walk over to the Casa de la Trova where wonderful traditional live music is played (optional).
Overnight Trinidad	

Saturday, January 20

Trinidad

B, L

Morning	Breakfast at casas particulares
9:00 am	We start this morning with a guided city tour of Trinidad , a popular colonial town and UNESCO World Heritage Site . We will receive a panorama of Architecture and Restoration in Provincial architecture, urban planning, and colonial and revolutionary history as we visit various major sites throughout Trinidad.
Lunch	TBD
4:00 pm	We have time to engage with Cubans at their art studios and galleries. One favorite is engaged with the artist Judith Vital at her studio.
Evening	Dinner on your own ; enjoy local music!
Overnight Trinidad	

Sunday, January 21TrinidadB, L

Morning	Breakfast at casas particulares
9:00 am	We are off to Topes de Collantes high in the Escambray Mountains . At over 1000 feet above sea level, this reserve is a hikers' paradise, offering various trails to explore and gorgeous viewpoints. You may be lucky enough to see endemic birds and animals, such as the trogon, on the trail. Enjoy the Guanayara hike.
Lunch	TBD
Afternoon	After lunch, we have the afternoon to explore the coastal beauty of Playa Ancon .
Evening	Dine on your own at the paladar of your choice. As night settles in, if you have the energy, you can explore the music house which has live music along the steps of the main plaza .
Overnight Trinidad	

Monday, January 22Zapata SwampB, L

9:00 am	Breakfast and check out of casa particulares.
After breakfast	Leave for the Zapata Peninsula a UNESCO bioserve . We will visit the Bay of Pigs Museum and enjoy a visit to the beautiful Caleta Buena , and the ocean to explore local marine ecology.
Lunch	Lunch at the Caleta
Afternoon	Those of you interested in swimming, snorkeling, or diving can do so at Playa Larga or Playa Giron .
4:00 pm	Meet with a local representative from the FMC, the Federation of Cuban Women , to discuss gender equity in Cuba. Check in to our casa particulares in Playa Giron
Evening	Dinner on your own ; free to explore local venues.
Overnight Playa Giron	

Tuesday, January 23Community Development & ArtsB, L

6:00 am	Early morning hike to explore local endemic flora and fauna including the Bee Hummingbird!!
9:00 am	Breakfast and return to Havana
Lunch	TBD

3:30 pm	Requested meeting representative from the Ministry of Tourism or a faculty of tourism professor from the University of Havana for an overview of the potential benefits and underbelly of tourism in Cuba.
5:00 pm	Get ready to dance and meet local arts at a community development project (Proyecto Muraleando).
Evening	Evening free to explore Havana Vieja
Overnight Havana (Havana Cathedral, a 5-star hotel)	

Wednesday, January 24 **Rest and Wrap-up** **B, D**

Morning	Breakfast at your leisure at the hotel
After breakfast	Free time (Optional visit to Malecon – to be explained later)
11:00 am	Exchange with Alas de Mariposas ; we will exchange in solidarity with our sisters also surviving breast cancer.
12:30 pm	For lunch today we will make a group reservation at a paladar and invite Norma Guillard , from the University of Havana & founder of the Oremi Group to discuss gender, sexuality, and race in Cuba.
2:00 pm	Free afternoon
7:00 pm Dinner	Farewell Dinner at Café and after let us enjoy the lit-up streets of Havana for a farewell mojito.
Overnight Havana (Havana Cathedral, a 5-star hotel)	

Thursday, January 25 **Hasta Luego!** **B**

am	Breakfast at the hotel
am	Check out of the hotel
am	Check-in for flight TBA for the am departure flight to Miami+ OR feel free to stay one or two days for personal research!