



TEMPLE
UNIVERSITY

**Cuban Architecture, Urbana Planning and Historic Preservation
With Temple University's
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Tyler School of Art and Architecture**

February 8th – 18th, 2025

Saturday, February 8th

Welcome to Havana~

Am Arrival into Jose Marti International Airport. Transfer and check into our Hostal Copa.

5:00pm Orientation meeting.

6:30 pm Pick up by Classic Cars and Cruise the Malecon

7:30pm Welcome Dinner at San Cristobal Paladar

Meals: Welcome Mojito, Dinner

Sunday, February 9th

Havana ; World Heritage

9:00am Havana Past, Present and Future **with Cuban Architect Miguel Coyula** at the beautiful Art Deco Casa De Amistad.

11:00am **Maqueta de la Ciudad** (the scale model of the city). The Maqueta is a non-governmental organization that brings together architects, urban planners and sociologists who make recommendations, plan and implement on the future development of the Capital. Following the meeting the group will be led on a guided walking visit of Old Havana with architects who will explain current renovation projects in Havana's historic center.

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

3:00pm **Walking tour of Old Havana.** UNESCO`S World Heritage Site. Walk around the historical center of Old Havana, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1982, accompanied by an architect who will explain the renovation work

undergone in this area of the city, as well as important architectural features of the colonial period.

5:00pm Break and time to rest.

7:30pm Optional Drop off for dining at Café Laurent. Then we can walk to experience the architecture of the **Hotel Nacional**.

9:45pm Enjoy live Cuban Jazz at La Zora y El Cuervo.

Monday, February 10 The Master Plan through an Architects Lens

09.30am Meet with the **Union Nacional de Arquitectos E Ingenieros de la Construcción** de Cuba. Learn about the organization and work of the architects' union.

11:00 am **Tour of Havana**, showing the architectural patterns of the beginning of the century, and landmarks from this period, including a tour through the Capitol Building.

12.30pm Lunch in Old Havana.

2:00pm Exchange the City Historian's Office to learn about the Master Plan for Restoration in Havana. Learn about the incredible passion, vision of life of Eusebio Leal Spengler!

4:00pm Enjoy interactive dance at the **Rosario Cardenas Dance troupe off Prado**.

After we will walk down Prado before getting picked up to return to our Hostal.

Evening optional cultural activity: We drive to the **Fortaleza de San Carlos de la Cabaña**, known as La Cabaña (Fort of Saint Charles), is an 18th century fortress complex, the third biggest in the Americas, located on the elevated eastern side of the harbor entrance in Havana, Cuba. The fort rises above the 200-foot hilltop, along with Morro Castle (fortress).

Dinner reservations at a local paladar Canonazoa. Then enjoy the Canoñazo Ceremony. It is a historical reconstruction dating back to the colonial era. Back then, the cannon fire announced the official end of the day and the time to close the city gates for the night. Here you will have a lovely view of Old Havana as the restaurant is located in Fortaleza de San Carlos de la Cabana. At the time of its construction in the 1770s it was the largest fort the Spanish had ever built, as well as the costliest.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Tuesday February 11th

Havana

9:30 am Meeting with **Colegio Nacional de Arquitectos de Cuba (C.N.A.C.)** is a Cuban national institution based in Havana, that grew out of El Colegio de Arquitectos de La Habana to learn about architectural education.

11:00am Tour of Vedado neighborhood and **Christopher Columbus Cemetery**. This is a continuation of the tour on early century Havana architecture, specifically in the Vedado area, showing many details of eclecticism. Guided visit to the Cemetery of Havana, considered one of the richest in the world for its monumental and architectural values.

12:30 pm Lunch at Jardin de los Milagros.

2:30pm Exchange with a vocational training program in Havana, like **Melchor Gaspar**.

4:30pm Enjoy a narrative rich walking tour off the side streets of Havana ending at the Art Deco Bacardi building with Cuban photographer **Adrian Garrido**.

Free time for rest and dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Wednesday February 12th

Cienfuegos

8:30am Departure for **Cienfuegos city**, in the province of the same name, located on the central southern part of the island. Tour of city's most important architectural sites, such as the Valle Palace, the Terry Theater, the Cathedral, and others. for questions and answers on daily life and individual perceptions of Cuba today.

1.00pm Lunch in Cienfuegos

2.30pm Continuation of the city tour. Exchange with the **Coro de Cienfuegos**.

4:00pm Leave for our accommodation (Hotel Ronda) in the City of Trinidad.

Check in and free evening for dining and to enjoy the Casa de Trova!

Thursday February 13th

Trinidad

8.30am **Tour of Trinidad city**, in the central southern part of the island, located in Sancti Spiritus province. The historic center of city of Trinidad was declared a UNESCO

World Heritage Site in 1988. The city shows an amazing display of well-preserved Spanish colonial buildings, mostly from the 18th and 19th centuries. A great restoration process has been underway for most of the 80's and 90's.

10.00am Meeting with **representative of the Restoration Office.**

11:30am Walking tour of the city continues

12.30 pm Lunch

2.00pm Visit to the **Colonial Architecture Museum**, the Casa de Aldeman Ortiz is an example of 19th century architecture.

3:30pm Exchange with local artist like **Judith Vidal** and her community arts and knitting project.

5.30pm Free time to enjoy local music and dance.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Friday February 14th

Trinidad - Havana

8:00-11:00 am Free morning to explore traditional architecture. Or , enjoy optional ecotourism activities like a hike to the Topes de Collantes or Playa Ancon (you can choose one).

12:00pm Check out of hotel and free time for lunch.

1:00pm Leave for the **Sugar Mill Valley**, UNESCO World Heritage Site. Learn about the economic boom that the area of Trinidad enjoyed during the 18th century and the first half of the 19th was due, among other factors, to the production of sugar cane that took place in this area. Ruins of old sugar mills are well preserved and show this important period of Cuban history.

Return to Havana.

Check in to the Hostal de Buen Viaje and Dinner at a local paladar.
Explore the streets of Old Havana at night.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Saturday February 15th

Havana

10.00am Visit to the **National School of Arts**, ENA, built in 1961 by architects Ricardo Porro, Vittorio Garatti and Roberto Gottardi. We have two reasons to visit this unique place today. First to experience the architecture and second to learn about arts education in Cuba. (*tour of facility only*).

12:00pm Photo opportunity and short stop at the **Plaza de la Revolucion**.

12:30pm Lunch

2:30pm Exchange with a representative of **Infraestudio**. This architecture and art practice is based in Havana. Fernando Martirena, Anadis González, and other members and collaborators work from a narrative and discursive approach to experiment with various resources such as buildings, research, exhibitions, writings, and activism. This has allowed them to operate discreetly in a city frozen in time, recounting how [contemporary architecture is done in Cuba today](#).

4:00pm Havana Tour by bus of Miramar, Siboney and outlining areas of Vedado to experience the 50's modernist 'Mafia' era buildings to the "Revolutionary period".

6:00pm Free time for Dinner and rest

9:00pm If weekend optional visit to the FAC, **the Fabric de Arte Cubano**. We will be dropped off and have a tour of this incredible interactive arts space. You will cab home at your leisure.

Sunday February 16th

Havana

9.00 Exchange with a staff member like Roberto Perez or Yociel Marrero from **FANJ**, to learn about Cuba's commitment to sustainability and how the Tarrea Vida will impact future planning and development in Cuba. <http://fanj.org> (office closed on Sunday)>

11:00am **The Green Belt:** Lenin Park- Visit to the area surrounding Havana to the south, where a reforestation project took place in the 70's, by means of which the Lenin Park, a giant cultural and recreational institution, was created. The area also includes the Botanical Gardens, as well as ExpoCuba, a permanent exhibit of the achievements of Cuba's industry and technology.

- 1:00pm Lunch
- 3:00pm Enjoy a guided tour of the **Alicia Alonso Gran Teatro**.
- 4:30 pm **Q& A Discussion with Miguel Coyula**. Here you can bounce all your curiosities with Miguel.
- 6.00pm Evening free for cultural activities and dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Monday February 17th

Havana

- 9:00am Exchange with **ICAP** to discuss the future of US Cuban relations and to learn about the impact of the US Embargo on the restoration efforts in Cuba. We will also be able to talk about Cuba's housing crisis as buildings deteriorate.
- 11:00 am Architectural visit to **La Casa de la Obra Pía** followed by a community exchange at the **Convento de Belen (donations welcome here)**.
- 1:00pm Free time for Lunch and Shopping at the San Jose de Almancenenes .
- 3:00pm Walking tour of **Centro Havana with Architectural photographer Nestor Marti**.
- 5:00pm Free time to rest.
- 7:30pm Farewell Dinner at Café de Oriente off Francisco Square.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Tuesday, February 18th

Hasta Luego!

Check out and transfer to the airport!

This Journey is Powered by..._____

