

# Building Relations with Cuban Labor April 27 – May 3, 2025

Provincial Excursion May 3–8th, 2025

## Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> Bienvenidos

Please plan your arrival in Havana and taxi to your hotel of choice. We will arrange 2 group pickups as well.

4:00 pm Check-in to the hotel Gran Aston.

6:00 pm | Orientation and Meet and Greet Session.

8:00pm | Welcome Dinner

Meals Included: Dinner

### Monday, April 28

8:00pm

#### **Historical Overview**

9:00am	<b>Meeting with ICAP</b> , the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the People
	for a discussion on the current relationship between the US and Cuba.

Explanation of the history and development of Havana by an architect/urban planner, explanation of the social and political effects on the development of the Cuban Capital (**Miguel Coyula requested**).

12:30m Lunch in Old Havana

2:00pm Visit to the **Museum of the Revolution**, or the Museo de la Denuncia if still under restoration.

4:00pm Enjoy 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 first-hand how artist 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 local residents. See buildings and homes in different stages of reconstruction, meet with neighborhood residents. Learn about how tourism impacts economic good.

6:00pm Break to debrief, swim or relax. Dinner and Evening are free for personal exploration

**Optional hotel Activity:** enjoy a short and then a conversation **with Gloria Rolando** Among her best-known works are Cuba, My Footsteps in Baraguá (1996), a history of the West Indian community in eastern Cuba, Eyes of the Rainbow (1997), a **film** about Assata Shakur, and a three-part series on the 1912 massacre of members of the Partido Independiente de Color (Independent Party of Color). She will talk about race and gender in Cuba, and answer your questions about filmmaking.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

#### **Tuesday April 29**

#### Representation in Cuba Today!

9:00 am Learn about labor history in Cuba as we exchange with a member of the

Cuban Workers Confederation, CTC. Meeting with Victor Manuel

Lamagne Sanchez and Julio (the new Secretary General Sindicato National De Trabajadores De Hoteleria. Y Turismo

Cuba) to discuss the impacts of tourism & labor rights.

11:00am **Exchange with the Poder Popular** to learn political participation in

cuba.

Lunch At a local paladar

2:30pm Meeting with ICAP, the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the

**People** for a discussion on the current relationship between the US and

Cuba.

4:30pm Exchange with **CENESEX**, the Center for Sex Education in Cuba for a

discussion of LGBT rights in Cuba today.

6:00pm | Dinner free

8:00pm | Exchange with a local CDR!

**Meals Included:** Breakfast and Lunch

## Wednesday April 30th Fruits of the Cuban Revolution

9:00 am Learn about **Cuban Education** as we visit the National Ballet School

(donations of male & female ballet & point shoes), ISA or another school

11:00am Enjoy a cultural interactive exchange with the **Rosario Cardenas dance** 

troupe.

Lunch In Old Havana

2:30pm Visit to a **Cuban Hospital** to learn about public health in Cuba (Elam).

4:30pm Exchange with representatives from Cuba's Biotech field. Discuss

advancements in Cuban science, Covid Vaccines and the impacts of the US

embargo on this industry.

6:00pm Break.

8:00pm Join us for live Cuban Jazz at la Zora y El Cuervo.

Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch

#### Thusday, May 1

May Day!

Day

We board the bus at 4:00 am in order to arrive at Revolutionary Square, park, go through security, and find our seats for the March of 1,000,000 workers celebrating May Day. After the March we have lunch and have the rest of the afternoon for a break.

Optional afternoon shopping at the San Jose de Almancenes Craft Market.

**Meals Included:** Breakfast and Lunch

#### Friday May 2

## **Solidarity Conference**

8:00am	Breakfast
9:00am	Participate today in the International Conference of Labor Solidarity.
12:30	Lunch at the conference.
2:00pm	Visit to the Fidel Castro Museum.
4:00pm	<b>Exchange with the FMC</b> (Federation of Cuban Women to learn about gender equity in Cuba).
7:00pm	Classic Car Cruise and group photo at Revolution Square.
8:00pm	Group Farewell Celebration Dinner .
	Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### Saturday May 3

**Hasta Luego** 

Group 1 departs for flights back home.

We will have an am transfer and others can take a cab at your leisure.

## **Excursion to Cienfuegos, Trinidad and Santa Clara**

#### Saturday, May 3 Excursion Begins: Havana to Santa Clara and Trinidad

9:00am Che

Check out of our hotel and then we are off to **Trinidad via Matanzas Province.** Our first stop today is at the town of Santa Clara, a key city in the Cuban Revolution. Upon entering Santa Clara, we will have lunch and then see the **iconic statue and memorial of Ernesto Ché Guevara**, built to commemorate his death and that of the revolutionaries who died along with him in Bolivia.

3:00pm

On our way to Trinidad we pass by the Manaca Iznaga 16km East of Trinidad in the **Valle de los Ingenios**. A 144-foot tower was built to watch over the slaves as they worked, and it has a sugar cane press that the slaves used to operate. The village around the mansion is inhabited by direct descendants of the slaves.

6:00pm

Check into our casas particulares. Free time for Dinner

8:00pm

Join us at la Casa de Trova for live music!

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

## Sunday, May 4,

**Trinidad** 

9:30am

This morning we enjoy a walking tour of the beautiful colonial city of Trinidad is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and home to many beautiful and photogenic colonial buildings. We begin with a guided cultural tour of Trinidad where we have options to visit museums such as: **Museo Lucha contra Bandidos**, **Architecture Museum** and Museo Romantico.

1:00pm Lunch

2:30 pm Exchange and get hands on at the community project and a**rt gallery of** 

Judith Vidal.

4:30pm Visit the **Afro Cuban temple to Yemaya** we can learn about the Santeria

religion and its deities from the official caretaker – the Santero priest Israel

Ernesto Bravo Vega.

6:00pm We end our day with a traditional Canchánchara!

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

#### Monday, May 5th

**EcoTourism** 

8:00 am Breakfast at the hotel

9:30am We are off to explore the beauty of Cuba's rich biodiversity today. We will

Travel to the Escambre Mountains and explore the beautiful reserve, at the **Topes de Collantes.** We will visit with local **CITMA** staff to learn

about biodiversity protection.

Lunch

2:30pm Enjoy an ecology walk, el **Paseo Ecologico** and a 2-mile hike in the

afternoon for those that like to the Caburni Falls.

5:30pm Return to Trinidad for local night life and dinner together.

\*for those that don't want to hike you can enjoy a day here in town or take a cab to enjoy **Playa Ancon.** 

**Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch,

#### Tuesday May 6th

Cienfuegos

8:00am Breakfast and check out of your casas.

10:00 am We start our time with a lil walking tour of Cienfuegos the "Pearl of the

South". Our excursion starts with an exchange at the **Benny Moré Art School** to meet with its director Federico Cortese and students studying music, dance, or art and their teachers. (donations welcome here).

1:00pm Lunch

2:30 pm Meeting with the local provincial office of the **CTC the Cuban Workers** 

**Union** to learn about the realities outside of the Capitol.

4:00pm Visit to Teatro Terry and experience the music of Honey **and the Coro de** 

Cienfuegos!

6:00 pm Free time for Dinner at the hotel and time to relax.

8:30pm Enjoy live music together at **Jardines de la Uneac** or another venue. If

at UNEAC this supports the Union of Writers and Artists in Cuba.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

## Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> Santa

Santa Clara to Havana

8:00 am Breakfast at the hotel and we are off through Matanzas province. We will stop at the Korimakao Cultural Project in Ciénega de Zapata, an area

famous for its tropical wetlands. Korimakao is a project founded in 1992 to

bring theatre, music, and dance to remote areas of Cuba.

12:00pm Lunch.

2:00pm After lunch, we head along the picturesque **Bay of Pigs (Bahia de** 

**Cochinos)** past the site where the landing of U.S. sponsored counter-revolutionary exile militia occurred in 1961. Today there is a museum here that recounts the events of this conflict which resulted in the first defeat of

a U.S backed take-over in Latin America.

4:30pm Return to Havana and check in to the hotel Muthu at about 7:00pm.

8:00pm Farewell Dinner and time to explore Old Havana lit up at night!

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Thursday, May 8th

**Departure** 

Breakfast and transfer to the Jose International Airport

Meals Included: Breakfast

