



**AUBURN**

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**UNIVERSITY**

**EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL TOURS IN CUBA**

Monday, June 15 – Friday, June 19, 2015 Program



## Auburn University Presents to You Educational & Cultural Tours in Cuba



Network at University of Havana



Visa & Travel Details Sorted Out For You



Connect at National Capitol

### Dr Ralph Elliott and Dr Don-Terry Veal

#### Proposed Program with the Topics That Include:

- The outlook for the restoration of diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba
- The future of private economic development in Cuba
- The growth and development of the Cuban medical community
- Culture in Cuba with emphasis on music, the arts, and baseball mania
- The influence of art and music in Cuban history
- Potential growth sectors in Cuba and their future development opportunities
- Meet with at Cuban University Professionals

## **DAY 1 – Monday, June 15, 2015**

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### **2:00 pm – Depart Miami International Airport**

Air travel compliments of  <http://www.havanaair.com/>

### **3:00 pm – Arrive to José Martí International Airport**

*Upon arrival at the José Martí International Airport, personal attendants will provide arriving passengers with VIP meet and greet service. This service includes an escort through immigration and customs to drivers and guides. Mini-coaches will transfer passengers directly to the resort for check-in and to refresh. English-speaking guides will be provided.*

### **4:30 pm – Check-in at Hotel**

### **6:00 pm - Welcome Cocktail Reception at Hotel**

### **7:00 pm - Dinner at [Rio Mar Paladar](#)**

*This restaurant sits on an inlet at the entrance to the Almendares River which cuts through the city of Havana. It has a beautiful view in the distance of the Torreón de Santa Dorotea de La Chorrera.*



### **Optional Late Evening**

#### **Jazz Night in Havana Jazz Café Club or Zorra y el Cuervo Jazz Café**

*Jazz starts at approximately 10:00pm*

*Retire and relax from your journey at the hotel, or feel free to explore all Havana has to offer. A collection of local attractions, music and historic information will be provided.*

## **DAY 2 – Tuesday, June 16, 2015**

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### **7:00 am - 8:15 am - Breakfast at Hotel**

*Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at one of the hotel's restaurants.*

### **9:00 am- Seminar with a Minister on a requested topic OR Panoramic City Bus Tour**

#### **10:00am- Visit to The Callejon de Hamel Art Project**

*Visit Callejon de Hamel, a central part of Afro-Cuban gatherings. The tour will be led by the Cuban painter, sculptor and muralist Salvador Gonzalez — a man whose Afro-Cuban expression is known worldwide. Guests will also be able to view a dancing show from the local culture.*



### **12:30 pm - Lunch at Local Paladar**

### **2:00 pm – 5:00 pm - Panoramic City Bus Tour**

*Take in the magnificent sights of Downtown Havana.*

- **Centro Habana** - Cárdenas street, the former Cuban Telephone Company, Reina street, Aldama Palace, Golden Scepter, José Crusellas' house, Convent and Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Carlos III Avenue, Grand Masonic
- **Plaza Carlos III** - Cuba's flashiest shopping mall
- **Plaza de la Revolución** – Conceived by French urbanist Jean Claude Forestier in the 1920s, the gigantic Plaza de la Revolución (known as Plaza Cívica until 1959) was part of Havana's 'new city,' which grew up between 1920 and 1959.
- **Estadio Latinoamericano** – Also known as Latin American Stadium, this is a stadium that is primarily used for baseball.
- **Cementerio de Cristóbal Colón** – Also known as Christopher Columbus Cemetery, this is one of the great historical cemeteries of the world, and is very important in Latin American history.

- **Great Houses of Havana** - Casa Lasa y Baró, Manzana de Gómez, Casa Juan Gelats
- **FOCSA Building** - The tallest building in Cuba!
- **Vedado (Central Business District of Havana)** - Hotel Nacional de Cuba, University of Havana, Hotel Habana Libre, former Radiocentro building, Coppelia ice cream parlor, house of Luis N. Menocal, Municipal Maternity Hospital, Presidente hotel, López Serrano building and Serranito building.
- **Visit to the Fuster Project in Jaimanitas** - Located at a small coastal neighborhood West of Havana, this tour will be led by the famous Cuban painter and ceramicist José Fuster.
- **Cubanacán** - Convention Center and former residences of Havana's upper class, schools of art.
- **Marianao** - Monument to Finlay and surrounding buildings, hospital area.
- **Parque Almendares** - This park runs along the banks of the city's Río Almendares, below the bridge on Calle 23.



### **5:30 pm - Return to Hotel**

*Refresh and unwind before dinner.*

### **7:00 pm – 9:00 pm- Dinner at VIP Havana**

*Enjoy dinner at VIP Havana, one of the newest paladars in Havana that has become known for its excellent food and service.*

### **Late Evening**

*Retire at the hotel and prepare for the next day's activities.*

## **DAY 3 – Wednesday, June 17, 2015**

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### **7:00 am - 8:30 am - Breakfast at Hotel**

*Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at the hotel's restaurant.*

### **9:00 am- Seminar with a Minister on a requested topic OR Depart Hotel for Hemingway Museum – Finca Vigía, Cojímar, La Terrazas Bar and Restaurant**

Take a trip back in time and walk in the shoes of one of the world's greatest writers.

- Visit **Finca Vigía**, the former residence of the American writer, where many of his most famous literary works were written.
- Visit Cojímar, a fisherman village Hemingway docked his fishing boat, "El Pilar" and source of inspiration for his famous novel, "The Old Man and the Sea".
- Enjoy cocktails at La Terrazas Bar and Restaurant, a place related to the life of the famous writer and to Gregorio Fuentes, the captain of his fishing boat.

### **12:00 pm – Lunch at Local Paladar**

### **1:30pm- Tour of Havana University**

### **3:00pm- Visit to a Rum Factory**

*Rum has been produced in Cuba for more than four centuries! Learn about the fascinating history and production, while sampling brands of what's believed to be among the best. Visit the most well-known castle fortress in Cuba that guards the bay of Havana.*



### **4:30 pm - Return to Hotel**

*Refresh and unwind before dinner.*

### **6:00pm- Dinner at Local Paladar**

## **Day 4 – Thursday, June 18, 2015**

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### **7:00 am - 8:30 am - Breakfast at Hotel**

*Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at the hotel's restaurant.*

### **9:00 am – Seminar with a Minister on a requested topic or Visit Our Lady of Belén Convent and Church**

The Belén Convent project serves to inspire in all, a love of community, life and spirituality through music, arts, science, literature, health, engagement, productivity and learning. Today, the Belén convent has become a world-renowned community center and social service facility – a hallmark of sensitive sustainable urban development and rehabilitation.

### **10:00 am – Visit The United Hebrew Congregation Cemetery in Havana**

#### History On Becoming the United Hebrew Congregation

On 5 August 1906 eleven English-speaking Jews held a formal meeting in Havana with the intention of founding a congregation and cemetery. At this meeting, the eleven men declared their intention to create a congregation for the more than one hundred "hebrew (sic without capital letter) settlers" on the island, and to purchase land to be used as a cemetery "after its solemn dedication according to Jewish rites." The group formed what became United Hebrew Congregation (UHC), somewhat of a Jewish "home away from home." Their emotional "home" was the United States, not Cuba. Jewish heritage was a cohesive bind. None in the group was punctiliously observant of religious dictates. Conversing in English in an atmosphere that was Spanish-speaking united them.



#### History of the Cemetery

Consecrating a separate Jewish cemetery was not a simple affair. There were many obstacles in gaining the permits from Cuba in which it was finally approved and at the eighth meeting of United Hebrew Congregation, Hadida announced that the Cuban government had granted a permit for the cemetery. On that same evening, Hadida began soliciting subscriptions for gravesites so that they could go ahead with the purchase of the land. The cemetery, consecrated in 1910, is in Guanabacoa, a neighborhood across the bay from Habana Vieja. First settled by Europeans in the 16th century, Guanabacoa was a poor area, until wealthy residents moved in during the 1920s and 1930s.



**12:30 pm – Lunch at Local Paladar**

**2:00 pm – Visit to Morro Castle**

*Visit the most well-known castle fortress in Cuba that guards the bay of Havana.*

**3:00 pm – Tour of Marina District**

*Learn about the history of this beautiful seaport.*

**3:45 pm – Flea Market**

*Enjoy the art and cultural creations of the Cuban people*

**5:00 pm - Return to Hotel**

*Refresh and unwind before dinner*

**6:30 pm - Depart for Dinner from Hotel Lobby**

**7:00 pm - Dinner at Local Paladar**

**9:00 pm – Enjoy a night at Hotel Nacional**

Eighty-one years of history give prestige to the classic for distinction Gran Caribe hotel chain. The Hotel Nacional de Cuba is considered a symbol of history, culture and Cuban identity . The guns that made up the old Santa Clara Battery are on exhibition at the garden, they were declared part of the World Heritage Site. The Hotel Nacional de Cuba was declared a National Monument and it was inscribed in the World Memory Register.

With its privileged location in the middle of Vedado, the center of Havana, it stands on a hill just a few meters from the sea, and offers a great view of the Havana Harbor; the seawall and the city.

The Hotel stands out due to its refined elegance and its ancient splendor, which since 1930 has attracted a large number of personalities from the arts, science and politics, such as British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, artists Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner, Johnny Weismuller, Maria Félix, Jorge Negrete, and scientist Alexander Flemming.

**Late Evening**

*Retire at the hotel and prepare for the next day's activities*







## **DAY 5- Friday- June 19, 2015**

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### **8:00 am – 9:00 am - Breakfast at your leisure and Check out of Hotel Room**

Please make sure you check out of your rooms and bring your bags with you.

### **9:00 am –Seminar with a Minister on a requested topic OR Panoramic City Bus Tour**

### **10:15 am – Old Havana Flea Market**

Visit this area where local artisans share their crafts.

### **11:00 am – Visit the Community Project “Arte y Corte”**

Arts Court is a cultural economic project outset grouped uniting barbers, hairdressers, artists and painters in the country that have been linked, in one way or another to the hairdresser. The goal of all of them is to transcend beyond their job cutting hair, based on three grounds: the art, history and craft. The project is supported by the Office of the City Historian of Havana.

Some places to Visit into the Hairdressers’s Alley:

- Plazuela del Lucero
- Salon de Belleza y Museo Vivo de la Barberia y la Peluqueria Artecorte
- Escuela Comunitaria de Barberia y Peluqueria
- Atelier Pedro’s
- Estudio Galeria del artista de la plastica Roberto Gonzalez
- Restaurante “El Figaro”

### **12:30 pm – Lunch at a Local Paladar**

### **1:30 pm – Transfer to José Martí International Airport**

### **4:00 pm – Return Flight to Miami International Airport**

*Air travel provided by our exclusive partner*

<http://www.havanaair.com/>





### **Tipping Suggestions**

**Bathroom Attendants:** Use small coins (10 centavos, 25 centavos, etc.)

**Bell Hops:** \$1 CUC per bag

**Housekeeping:** \$1 CUC per day. We recommend tipping on a daily basis

**Musicians:** \$1 CUC, if you have enjoyed the performance

#### **Optional:**

**Cuban Bus Driver:** \$3 - \$5 CUC per person, per day

**Cuban Guide:** \$5 - \$8 CUC per person, per day...depending on your satisfactions

**Taxi Driver:** 10% of fare

### **Trip Includes**

- Land transportation while in Cuba
- Medical Insurance while in Cuba
- Expert Cuban Guide
- Cuba Explorations Guide
- All tours and entry fees (as listed in the program)
- VIP service at airport
- Cuban Departure tax of 25 CUC (approx. \$30 USD)

### **Trip Excludes**

- Photography fees at venue which usually an additional 5 CUC
- Tips to misc. service providers
- Miscellaneous tips (entertainment, bathroom attendants, etc) – 1-2 CUC per person/per day



People to People Exchange  
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June 15-19, 2015

## ***Auburn University June 15-19, 2015 Program***

Double Occupancy- \$3,495.00 per person (if you sharing a room with one other person.)

Single Occupancy- \$3,695.00 per person (if you are the only person in the hotel room.)

These rates are based on 10 travelers and to include airfare

Meeting Room fees are not included in these rates