



CUBA

Escorted Tour

15 days Tour **From \$4999**



Departing from Melbourne, Sydney & Brisbane.

The Deal: CUBA ESCORTED TOUR
15 days from \$4999

On our 15 day Cuba Group Tour -Majestic, you will not only experience the very best in Cuban history, culture, sites and landscapes, but you will meet and interact with a cross-section of locals, each with their own story to tell and experiences to share.

Duration: 15 days
Book by: 31 Aug 2017

Departure Dates: every Monday from 01 Oct to 30 November 2017.
And again from 01 Feb to 31 March 2018. 01 May to 14 June 2018

Tour: \$4999 - 15 DAY - BEST OF CUBA ESCORTED TOUR

Phone: Destination International on 1300 813391 - www.ditravel.com.au.

- Explore: Havana, Cienfuegos, Trinidad, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba, Baracoa
 - **Your Package Includes**
 - Return economy airfares from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Havana with Air Canada or Qantas and Aero Mexico.
 - 14 nights Casa B & Bs in Cuba.
 - •private transportation, local Viazul bus, taxi and an internal flight (Baracoa to Havana).
 - Breakfast Daily
 - English Speaking Tours Guides

Our exclusive focus is on supported travel arrangements which provide our customers with a breadth and depth of service complimented by local expertise that is simply unparalleled. Australian passport holders require a tourist visa for Cuba

The Deal:

Want to see the very best Cuba has to offer? Engage in the lively culture, enthralling history and breath-taking beauty of this evocative and vibrant Caribbean island on our 15 Day Cuba Group Tour – Majestic. Current economic and political transformations in Cuba suggest that there is no better time to take one of our tours in Cuba. Saunter down Trinidad’s cobble-stoned streets, discover Havana’s secrets through the windows of degenerate colonial buildings and let yourself move to the cool beat of Santiago de Cuba. Pristine beaches, pirates, salsa and Che are all on the agenda on a tour that aims to constantly excite, enthuse and enlighten.

- Experience Cuban hospitality at a Casa Particular
- A Local English-speaking Cuban guide accompanies all of our Cuba group tours
- Lose yourself in the winding colonial streets of Camaguey
- Dance the night away in Santiago de Cuba on one of our tours in Cuba
- Get curious exploring the spell-binding Havana Veija
- Soak up the picturesque underwater landscape at the Bay of Pigs
- Enjoy a scrumptious cocktail over stunning views
- Visit the final resting place of the immortalised Che Guevara
- Take in the historic french-influenced architecture of Cienfuegos

ABOUT THIS TOUR

[Cuban B&B's, English-speaking local Cuban guide, the 'best of' excursions](#)

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THE MOST POPULAR OF OUR CUBA GROUP TOURS – BEGINS EVERY

MONDAY IN HAVANA

15 DAY CUBA TOUR ITINERARY SNAPSHOT

- Day One: Tour arrival Day in Havana
- Day Two: Cienfuegos via Day of Pigs
- Day Three: Trinidad via Santa Clara
- Day Four and Five: Trinidad
- Day Six and Seven: Camaguey
- Day Eight and Nine: Santiago de Cuba
- Day Ten, Eleven and Twelve: Baracoa
- Day Thirteen and Fourteen: Havana
- Day Fifteen: Departure Day

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Add on a 4 day Mexico City Tour for \$799 per person – See below

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IS THIS TOUR FOR ME?

Our group tours are perfect for those who want the freedom and flexibility to travel at their own pace, along with the security, camaraderie and cultural

insight that comes from travelling with a local English-speaking guide and small group.

A Casa Particular is a Cuban Homestay or B&B. Staying in a Casa Particular is a brilliant way of immersing yourself in the life and culture of fascinating Cuba. When you choose a Casa Particular for your accommodation, you will meet the local people on a one-to-one basis and get a rare glimpse into the everyday life of ordinary people in Cuba. In addition, your host or hostess will be able to advise you on all things Cuban – the best restaurants, the best music and Salsa venues and any seasonal attractions that are only known to the locals!

WHAT IS A CASA PARTICULAR?

Casa Particular (or Casa Particulares in the plural form) is Spanish for 'private home'. In 1997 the Cuban government allowed local people to rent out their properties to visitors for the first time; prior to this all accommodation on the island was owned by the government, and this is why these Cuban-styled B&B's or rental apartments are called Casa Particulares to distinguish them as privately run establishments.

Owners of a Casa Particular have to pay an annual per-room tax to the government and are entitled to "advertise" their establishment by placing a small sign on the door – two blue triangles – "roofs"- against a white background. Most of the owners/operators are fiercely proud of their businesses and really strive to give holiday makers a brilliant and authentic Cuban home-stay experience.

MEET OUR TEAM OF LOCAL CUBAN TOUR GUIDES



Our team of passionate Cuban tour guides are dedicated to making your Cuba tour the best it can possibly be.

ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIMES

Below are the estimated travel times between destinations on this 15 Day Cuba Group Tour. For the longer journey's on all of our tours in Cuba, our guides like to break-up the journey by stopping for lunch and at various points of interest along the way.

Havana to Cienfuegos via Bay of Pigs: 5 hours

Cienfuegos to Trinidad via Santa Clara: 4 hours

Trinidad to Camaguey: 6 hours

Camaguey to Santiago de Cuba: 7 hours

Santiago de Cuba to Baracoa: 5-6 hours

TRANSPORTATION ON OUR TOURS IN CUBA

On our Cuba group tours we use a mixture of private transportation, local Viazul bus, taxi and an internal flight (Baracoa to Havana).

An internal flight from Baracoa to Havana is included as part of this tour. Please note that on occasions, due to flight availability, the group might need to be transported to Santiago de Cuba or Holguin to fly from there.

ACCOMMODATION



Casa Maribel in Havana Vieja & breakfast is served at a Casa in Cienfuegos on one of our tours in Cuba

For the Cuba group tours we run, we use authentic Casa Particulares (Cuban B&B's). Staying at a Casa Particular and interacting with Cuban locals provides an enriched cultural experience and is often a highlight for many of our tour participants. At the end of your stay in Havana we like to use Casa Particular accommodation in Havana Centro or Havana Vieja. Please note that a lot of the best Casa's in these areas are up several flights of stairs. If these stairs are likely to cause you problems, just let us know ahead of time and we will source a suitable alternative.

You are welcome to request extra accommodation on any of our Cuba group tours. This can be done using our online form at the time of booking.

SPENDING MONEY ON TOUR

Everyone is different in the amount of money they will spend on our Cuba group tours. Your main expenses on our 15 Day Cuba Group Tour will be food, drinks, airport departure transportation, souvenirs, optional activities. For our 15 Day Cuba Group tour we estimate that you will need between USD\$600 – USD\$850 for expenses (not including the on location payment).

OUR SINGLE SUPPLEMENT POLICY

We believe that you should be able to have the privacy that comes with having your own room on tour, and not have to pay anything extra for this. That's why it is our policy is to waive the single supplement fee on all of our Cuba Group tours. Of course you can still choose to share a room with a fellow traveller, as this can often be part of the fun of traveling – it's your choice!

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

We include an airport transfer on arrival for all of our Cuba group tours. On departure, your local Cuban guide will help organise your transfer at market rates (no commission).

TOUR VIDEO

MAP



ITINERARY



DAY ONE: HAVANA

Known as the capital of fun during the 40's and 50's, this spellbinding city immediately captures the curiosity of her many visitors. But where do you start? We recommend those booked on our 15 Day Cuba Group Tour put on your walking shoes and take in Havana's rich history, grand monuments, world famous cigars and scrumptious cocktails. You can easily get lost in Havana Vieja (old Havana), the old city of cobble stoned alleyways and colonial buildings, ancient squares and noted churches. The perfect day to get your bearings and meet your guide and group for an optional evening meal.

Please note that the first day of the tour is a joining day with no formal activities planned. We do organise your accommodation for this evening and a optional dinner with your guide and group.



DAY TWO: CIENFUEGOS

Stop off at Playa Girón/ Bay of Pigs, long associated with the USA's first military failure in Latin America. The natural beauty of this area is stunning, with cave systems, coral formations and an abundance of sea life making it a must for snorkelers, divers and ocean lovers alike.

If Cuba had a Paris then it would probably be Cienfuegos, which stands out for its rich French-influenced architecture. A harbour city by location, the 'Pearl of the Caribbean' has seduced Cuban travellers for years due to its elegance and beauty. Founded in 1819 by Don Luis de Clouet, Cienfuegos luckily managed to remain free of pirate attacks, allowing this popular city to prosper. Explore the wide streets and promenades or enjoy a walk by the Malecon, the longest promenade on the island. "Cienfuegos is the city I like the best", wrote Beni More, one of Cubas most important musicians in the first half of the 20th century. Check it out for yourself and see what you think.



DAY THREE, FOUR AND FIVE: TRINIDAD

Stop at the Che Guevara mausoleum and memorial in Santa Clara, where Che's remains are immortalized following their discovery in Bolivia in 1997. Santa Clara holds a special place in Cuban history, where in December 1958,

Commander Ernesto Che Guevara led his revolutionary rebels in the derailment of the armoured train carrying the ammunition Batista had sent to defeat Fidel – the revolution was won.

Then it's on to the favourite destination of many a traveler to Cuba. Trinidad was founded in 1514 by Diego Velázquez and is considered a jewel in Cuban colonial architecture. For some, Trinidad is a living museum, stuck in the time of Cuba's first War of Independence when local sugar plantations were devastated by fire. The vibrant colours and soulful music littered along cobbled streets will simply take your breath away.

Take the opportunity to visit a local waterfall, historic sugar mill or one of Cuba's best beaches – Playa Ancon. An evening at one of Trinidad's effervescent music venues is a must!



DAY SIX AND SEVEN: CAMAGUEY

Don't get lost in "La Ciudad Confusa" (the maze)! The labyrinth of winding streets and alleys of Cuba's third largest city shouldn't be enough to put you off visiting the beguiling city of Camaguey – a city built to confuse pirates.

With its large number of squares and parks, colonial architecture and enriched spiritual persona, Camaguey is a mecca for Cuban arts and culture. Plan a visit to a famous historical landmark or explore a myriad of art galleries and handicraft exhibits – it's entirely up to you! There are also some of Cuba's best beaches close by at Playa Santa Lucia.

A guided tour on the back of a bicycle taxi is our gift to you!



DAY EIGHT AND NINE: SANTIAGO DE CUBA

The second largest city in Cuba is surely its most dynamic. With a myriad of ethnicities calling Santiago home, it's hard not to get swept away in its joyous and prepossessing surroundings. Plus its music and dance scene is quite possibly the best in Cuba.

As the most Caribbean of Cuban destinations with a backdrop of mountains and rugged terrain, Santiago de Cuba has many things to show off and be proud of. It is the hub of most of the music genres in Cuba and the locals are hospitable, resourceful and virtuous.

Make sure you visit one of Santiago de Cuba's famous tobacco factories when in town and take in a famous music venue or two in the evening on your 15 Day Cuba Group Tour.



DAY TEN, ELEVEN AND TWELVE: BARACOA

Cuba's first colonial capital, Baracoa is set amongst a mixture of palm, chocolate and banana trees. It is a land blessed with many rivers and a healthy annual rain fall, that has worked to create some of the most lush vegetation and rainforest you will ever encounter. The town has remained relatively unchanged over the years, with several houses dating back to the 19th century and a system of colonial fortifications that includes Matachin Fort and La Punta Fort.

From Baracoa there are many outdoor excursions to go on, each making use of its beautiful surroundings. Explore the bountiful rivers in the area or go boating

between the tall cliffs at the mouth of Yumuri River. You can also see over 900 species of endemic flora, including around 360 that are found only in this area.

Baracoa's cuisine is world famous in Cuba and a BBQ group lunch is the best way to sample the delicious local produce.



DAY THIRTEEN, FOURTEEN AND FIFTEEN: HAVANA

Back in Havana you have the opportunity to explore some more and experience Cuban nightlife one last time. A full day tour of the city including time in a classic American car is included as part of your 15 Day Cuba Group Tour – enjoy!

Please note that Day Fifteen is the tour **departure day** with no activities planned, meaning you are free to depart at any time.

INCLUSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

DURATION

15 days, 14 nights

START

Havana, Cuba

FINISH

Havana, Cuba

GROUP SIZE

2-12

MEALS

14 breakfasts, 1 lunch included

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

None

ACCOMMODATION

Cuban B&B's/ Casa Particular's - 14 nights

TRANSPORT

Private Minivan, VIAZUL bus, taxi, internal flight

Add on a 4 day Mexico City Tour for \$899 per person

Itinerary

Expand All

Day 1: Mexico City

Arrive in Mexico City. A welcome pack will be waiting at the hotel including all the information you need for your tour.

Modern meets ancient in Mexico City - one of the world's largest urban centres. Although crowded and smoggy, D.F. (Distrito Federal) offers a great variety of impressive museums, galleries and architecture, along with exciting night life and delicious street food. Today is just an arrival day, there are no organised activities. If you arrive early perhaps head to the Zocalo, the city's huge central square, to see Aztec ruins and colonial architecture or relax in one of the many parks, plazas and gardens.

Accommodation

- Hotel (1 night)

Meals Included

There are no meals included on this day.

Day 2: Mexico City

Today, your Intrepid Urban Adventures guide will pick you up from your hotel at 08.45 before making your way to pick up the rest of travel companions for today.

Embark on an exploration of Mexico City including the Zocalo, Metropolitan Cathedral and Templo Mayor. See one of Diego Rivera's most famous murals at Museo Mural and explore the fresh food stalls at Mercado San Juan.

Your trip will finish at approximately 4pm at the Palace of Fine Arts (Palacio de Bellas Artes) about 9 min walk from your hotel.

Accommodation

- Hotel (1 night)

Included Activities

- Mexico City Tour - Urban Adventures

Meals Included

There are no meals included on this day.

Day 3: Mexico City

Today your Intrepid Urban Adventures guide will pick you up from your hotel at 10am before heading to the Basilica de Guadalupe. After the visit to the Basilica you will pick up the rest of your travel mates for today.

Head out of Mexico City by local transport, experiencing how locals move about this crowded city. Hop off at the archaeological area of the Teotihuacan pyramids. As you tour the grounds, you'll visit the Moon Pyramid, the Calzada de los Muertos (Dead Pass), and the Sun Pyramid, which is the tallest and most spectacular in the area — it's 63 metres to the top.

After exploring the pyramids, we'll continue the afternoon walking through the streets of a nearby town. Our first stop will take us into a family-run business where you will learn about 'obsidian' — the material that the Teotihuacan people use as a main element to make their tools, idols, and decorations. As well, you'll get to sip an ancient sacred drink called 'pulque,' which is extracted from the heart of the maguey (another kind of cactus) — considered by some to be the great-grandfather of tequila.

Next up on this Mexico tour, pay a visit to the cactus product factory to try some of their produces which include jams, candies, spicy lollies, alcoholic creams, and other products made by the local people from the endemic vegetation such as nopal, xoconostle, and tuna (a cactus fruit, not tuna fish!).

To finish our journey, we'll visit a local family for dinner. Their menu is always changing based on whatever they've cooked for the day — but there's always delicious options for every palate. You'll be welcomed into their home and experience traditional dinner customs.

After dinner, we'll head back to Mexico City, arriving at about 9.30pm.

Accommodation

- Hotel (1 night)

Included Activities

- Hidden Teotihuacan & family dinner - Urban Adventures
- Family dinner - Urban Adventures

Meals Included

- Dinner

Day 4: Mexico City

There are no activities planned for the final day, departure flights can be at any time.

Meals Included

There are no meals included on this day.



Booking conditions apply. FREE BROCHURES.
All tours are subject to confirmation from the airlines, hotels and tour operators.

For Reservations, Free Brochures & Enquiries phone
Phone 1300 813 391
Email: karen@ditravel.com.au

How to book:

Our office is located in Kew in Melbourne.

You can call our office on 1300 813391.

You can email us on mark@ditravel.com.au

You can call our office and make an appointment to come and meet with one of travel consultants.

Deposit \$3500 per person. Balance is due 90 days prior to departure.

Payment can be made by:

Credit card – there is 2% bank fee charged for all major credit cards that will be added to your tour cost at time of payment. We only accept visa or mastercard.

You can also pay by cash or cheque by depositing these funds directly into our bank account at any Bendigo bank in Australia. There are no bank fees charged when you direct deposit the funds directly into our bank account.



Reservations Phone 1300 813391



ATAS Accreditation Number: A10718

ATAS vets travel agents against strict criteria to ensure they meet certain standards, are reliable, well trained and professional businesses. ATAS agents need to meet high standards of business discipline, training, compliance with Australian Consumer Law and compliance with a strict code of conduct – ensuring your piece of mind when booking travel.

We have met these strict standards and criteria in order to become nationally accredited. Our accreditation means we are the best in the industry, credible, well trained and a

professional business. This means you can book your travel knowing you're in the safe hands of a trusted and reputable travel agent.

Further information can be found at <http://www.atas.com.au/>

Affordable Holidays - HOW DO WE DO IT???

We go directly to our overseas suppliers to source the best possible price and holiday for you. That's why our holidays are so affordable!! There are many overseas wholesalers that currently do not sell their holidays in Australia. We have approached some of these businesses to see if we can represent them here in our country. These travel professionals offer exceptional service and tours at just the right price. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will do our best to find you a holiday that fits within your travel budget.

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DESTINATION INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read this information prior to making your reservation.

BROCHURE VALIDITY

The information presented in our brochure is correct to the best of our knowledge, but is subject to change without notice. Changes can occur with respect to prices, itineraries, duration of holidays, service standards, tour content, airfares and schedules. This is out of our control. Please ensure you advise details of your requirements at the time of booking.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

The Australian GST does not apply to international travel. Any service fees, courier, cancellation and amendment fees are subject to GST. You will be charged GST where applicable.

DEPOSIT

A deposit is required to confirm your booking (varies depending on package booked). Receipt of deposit will be taken as an understanding by Destination International Holidays that the customer has checked their confirmed travel arrangements and has read and agreed to the terms and conditions.

FINAL PAYMENT

Payment in full must be made no less than 90 days before travel.

PRICES

All prices for our tours are advised in Australian Dollars (\$AUD). They are based on

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You must be insured for the duration of your trip. You need comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, health requirements, luggage and additional expenses. Insurance policies rarely cover for loss of cash.

ACCOMMODATION

There will be variations in the size, standard and presentation of rooms and facilities within the one hotel. This is beyond the control of Destination International Holidays.

CLAIMS

If you encounter any problems on your holiday, you should to try and solve it directly with the supplier whilst overseas. If it is not possible to do so please do so in writing within 30 days of completing your Destination International Holidays arrangements.

PASSPORT, VISA & VACCINATIONS

You must familiarise yourself with any visa and health requirements that may be applicable in the countries you are visiting. You are responsible for all entry/exit health and any other documents required by laws, regulations, orders, demands or requirements of countries visited or transited. Please note that passport and visa requirements are not the responsibility of Destination International Holidays. We will not be held liable for any loss or expense due to the failure to comply with the above. We recommend that you be

airfares, schedules and tariffs at the time of printing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to vary the cost of the tour, taxes and airline prices if necessary by reason of currency fluctuation, cost increase, or airfare increase. All prices are subject to confirmation from local tour operators. Once full payment has been received by Destination International no surcharges in respect to currency fluctuations will be applied. Destination International Holidays cannot be held responsible for any service that we are unable to provide due to that particular component being unavailable.

ITINERARY CHANGES

Destination International Holidays reserves the right to amend the itinerary for reasons such as service requirements, road or weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. Where a change is of a significant nature, it will be advised to our customers in writing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to substitute hotels, lodges, inns and camps with properties of similar standard.

AMENDMENT FEES

Should you need to alter your original reservations, there will be an automatic fee charged of \$100 per amendment or transaction. Additionally there may be cancellation fees levied by the tour operator or fees may be applicable where arrangements have been pre-purchased.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellation fees will be levied relative to the amount of notice given as follows:

Days Notice	90 or more	75-90	65-75	65-1
	Loss of Deposit and 50% loss of fare	75%	85%	100%

The above are Destination International Holidays cancellation fees. Airlines and Tour Operators may have additional fees. Transfer of a confirmed booking to another tour or departure date is deemed a cancellation of the original booking. There will be no refund for cancellation of unused services on or after commencement date. Please note that employees of any overseas suppliers are not authorised by Destination International Holidays to make any undertakings to our clients in respect of refunds or other matters.

in possession of a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay overseas.

CONSULAR ADVICE

Official travel advice issued by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is available by calling 1300 555 135 or visiting their web site www.dfat.gov.au. You must review this information both prior to making your booking and prior to departure.

TOUR CONDITIONS

Destination International Holidays does not itself provide carriage services, accommodation, transport or tours. Destination International Holidays acts as an agent for the "Service Providers"). All products and services provided by Service Providers are provided on those Service Providers own terms and conditions which may include limitations and exclusions of liability. All bookings with Destination International Holidays and all tickets, vouchers, receipts, coupons, exchange orders and other like documents issued to the client, are subject to each Service Providers terms and conditions governing the provision of products and services to be provided by that Service provider. Destination International Holidays shall not be liable for any acts, omissions or defaults whether negligent or otherwise, of any Service Providers. Destination International Holidays shall not be liable (whether in contract, tort or otherwise) for any injury, illness, death, loss, damage, expense, delay or inconvenience resulting directly or indirectly from circumstances outside of Destination International Holidays control, including acts of nature, war, civil disturbances, strikes, floods, acts of government or authorities, breakdowns, accidents, disease, quarantine, terrorism, medical or customs regulations, and alterations, cancellations or delays concerning itineraries, timetables or accommodation.

CONTRACT

The contract between Destination International Holidays is governed by the laws of the State of Victoria. By booking with Destination International Holidays the client agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions referred to in our brochure.

Destination International Holidays

Reservations Phone 1300 813 391



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