



WE'RE
PROUD
TO BE **ATAS**
travel accredited

CUBA & MEXICO

Escorted Tour

14 days Fly/Tour from

\$4599



Book by 31 October 2019

Deposit \$2000 per person

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Departing from Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane.
14 Day Cuba & Mexico tour from \$4599 per person twin share

On our 14-day Cuba & Mexico Small Group Tour you will not only experience the very best in local 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.

Tour departs every Sunday:

2019 - 06 October to 29 November

2020 - 01 February to 25 March & 21 April to 10 June

Prices (twin share):

Ex Sydney Melbourne and Brisbane:	\$4599 per person.
Ex Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide price:	\$4999 per person.
Ex Perth:	\$5299 per person.

The above prices are flying with Air Canada from Australia via Toronto to Havana, or flying via Mexico City with Qantas and Aero Mexico.

At this point we are not recommending flights via the USA to Havana. There are too many variables with visa control and flights times. Some USA airlines will cancel your flights unless you meet the very strict criteria to travel from the USA to Cuba. For this reason, we are only offering flights via Canada and Mexico to Havana.

Your Package Includes:

- Return economy airfares from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Havana
- 9 nights Casa B & Bs in Cuba.
- 3 nights 4-star hotel in Mexico City
- Private transportation, local Viazul bus, Breakfast Daily
- English-speaking tours guides
- Small Group up to 12 passengers
- Cuba airport transfers.
- All touring as listed in the below itinerary.

Excludes:

- Single supplement
- Visa fees (where applicable)
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Mexico airport transfers
- Items of a personal nature, such as drinks, WiFi, laundry etc
- Sightseeing, meals & any other items or services not listed in the above inclusions or in the itinerary

*Subject to confirmation by the airlines, hotels & local tour operators.
Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.*

**Call Destination International on 1300 813 391
for enquiries & reservations.**

About the Tour:

Explore Havana, Cienfuegos, Trinidad, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba, Baracoa & Mexico City

Our 10-day Cuba group tour will excite all of your senses and is the best way to begin your love affair with this lively destination. Cuba's rich history and culture will come to life over 10 magical days, and we are quite sure that you won't want to leave.

Cuba is in a state of unique transition, and is ready to open itself up to the world like never before. Imagine yourself walking along the cobblestoned streets of gorgeous Trinidad and discovering the magic of Havana. Another highlight is the Mogote hills in the achingly beautiful town of Viñales. The air is fresh and sweet, filled with rich aroma of tobacco and pulsating Cuban rhythms. Even the noise of those stunning 1950's cars will be music to your ears. We include a lot into 10 days, and yet you will be both stimulated and relaxed.

Next stop, Mexico City, where modern meets ancient in 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.

During your 3-night stay you will embark on an exploration including the Zocalo, Metropolitan Cathedral and Templo Mayor. See one of Diego Rivera's most famous murals at Museo Mural, explore the fresh food stalls at Mercado San Juan and the renowned Basilica de Guadalupe. Head out of Mexico City with your local guide to reach the astounding archaeological area of the Teotihuacan pyramids. Visit a local family for dinner to experience traditional dinner customs and discover more about this amazing city than you ever thought possible on a quick trip!

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.



ITINERARY



DAY ONE: HAVANA

There's so much life in Havana, and yet this bustling city never feels overwhelming. The only difficult thing about the city is knowing where to start exploring. The best way for those on our 10 day Cuba group tour to get started is with a pair of comfortable walking shoes. The entire city is fascinating, but fortunately many of the main points of interest are within a fairly compact area. Take a leisurely stroll through Havana's Old Town, with pauses for coffee (and Cuban coffee is amongst the best in the world), or for a magical mojito. The architecture of this part of the city is an attraction in itself. The first day of our 10 day Cuba group tours is the perfect way to ease yourself into Cuban life. You can even join your guide and fellow tour group members for dinner if you arrive in time.

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 an optional dinner with your guide and group.



DAY TWO: CIENFUEGOS

We'll show you Playa Girón, which is otherwise known as the Bay of Pigs. This was the site of the infamous failed invasion of Cuba. Its brutal history is nowhere to be seen, and it's now an area of profound natural beauty. You'll want to dive straight into that beautiful ocean, and don't worry – there will be time.

While most of Cuba was settled by the Spanish, it was actually the French who made Cienfuegos into the city it is today. French migrants flocked to the area in the 1800's and their architectural influence on the city is obvious. On some streets you might think you're walking through Paris (although with infinitely better weather). At the entrance to the harbour you'll see the Castillo de Jagua, an ancient fort that allowed the city to withstand the pirate attacks that were once common in Cuba. Many buildings in the town have been given UNESCO world heritage status, and you might think you've never seen such a beautiful town... until we show you some other places.

A harbour city by location, the 'Pearl of the Caribbean' has seduced Cuban travellers for years due to its elegance and beauty. 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.

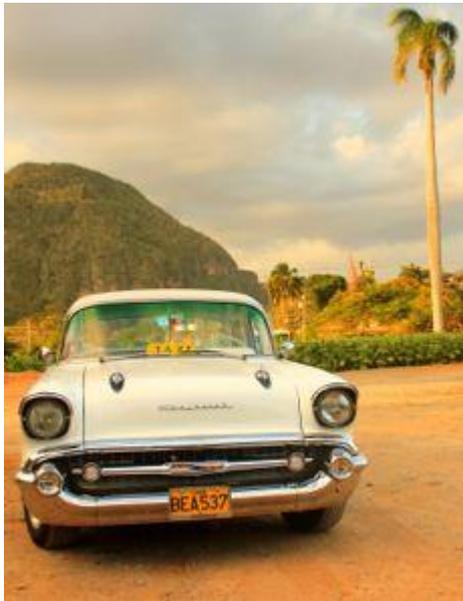


DAY THREE AND FOUR: TRINIDAD

While Che Guevara is synonymous with Cuba, his final days were actually spent in Bolivia. Cuba felt he needed a hero's burial and memorial, and this is located in Santa Clara, to where his body was returned. Our 10 day Cuba group tours will take you to this remarkable spot near Trinidad. It was in Santa Clara that Guevara and his rebels successfully derailed a military train carrying weapons and ammunition to be used against Fidel Castro. This act was credited with winning the revolution.

After Santa Clara we'll take you to remarkable Trinidad. Founded in 1514, the central parts of the city have been lovingly maintained, and you might wonder if you've been transported back in time. Many buildings are painted in sensational shades of colour, making Trinidad a true treat for the eyes. Trinidad was once the heart of Cuba's sugar industry (and a lot of sugar cane is still processed here). You simply have to take a visit to the sugar district, where many of the old mills can be found. For a fairly small city, there's an amazing amount of nightlife as well.

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 FIVE AND SIX: VINALES

Viñales is reasonably close to Havana, and has been popular with visitors for generations. In the heart of the Pinar del Rio valley, most of Cuba's tobacco production takes place in and around Viñales. This is the place to see where those world famous cigars come from, and to get some for yourself.

The geography in the area is stunning, and the town is ringed by stark mogotes – small hills with sheer rock faces. All of our Cuba group tours offer you the chance to take salsa lessons, and Viñales is the best place to do this.

The nightlife is lively, but not as crowded as larger cities – just in case you don't want to have an audience!



DAY SEVEN: HAVANA

We'll welcome you back to heavenly Havana for the last days of your tour. Your guides will be able to tell you about some amazing places to

see that you might not have considered. On the afternoon of Day 7, you will take a tour of the city by classic car.

There are currently an estimated 60,000 pre-1960 American cars hurtling through Cuba today and before the embargo there were at least 150,000. Buicks, Chevys, and countless other cool-finned cruisers rumble down the crumbling streets of Havana, many abandoned by their American owners when they fled in 1959 and kept going by Cuban ingenuity. This iconic mode of transport is the perfect way to see wider Havana and a very different side of the city. Here you will be chauffeured around some of the most famous areas of Havana including New Havana, Old Havana, the affluent neighbourhood of Miramar and the famous cemetery of Colon.



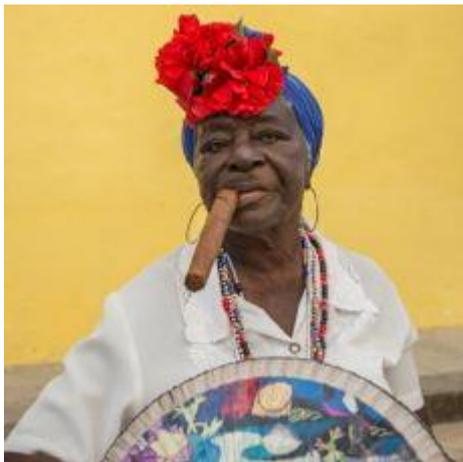
DAY EIGHT: WALKING TOUR OF OLD HAVANA AND CALLEJON DE HAMMEL

The best place to start any Havana experience is in the Old City. Havana's Old City is one of the best preserved and was designated a World Heritage Site in 1982. The streets are lined with colonial architecture, 16th century fortresses and countless churches. After breakfast your local guide will meet you at 9am at your hotel and take you on a walking tour of Old Havana and you will visit La Catedral San Cristobal de la Habana, described by the novelist Alejo Carpentier as 'music set in stone'. You will also visit famous landmarks such as Palacio de los Marqueses de Aguas Claras (now a restaurant) and the Plaza de Armas, complete with a statue of Manuel de Cespedes, one of the leaders of the independence movement. There are plenty of good museums to visit on the walking tour including Museo de la Revolucion and the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes.

Your guide will also give you the option to visit Saint Francis of Assisi Square, Arms Square, the Old Square and Cathedral Square.

On the walking tour you will experience a panoramic tour through the “Malecón”, the Revolution Square, Central Park, Opera House, Capitol building, former Bacardi Building and Museum of the Revolution, former Presidential Palace with plenty of opportunities for photos. You will also have the opportunity to have lunch at an authentic family-run Cuban restaurant (Paladar).

In the afternoon we recommend visiting Callejon de Hammel in central Havana. Callejon de Hammel is where the Cuban artist fraternity congregate, and is a wonderful place to experience day-to-day Cuban life. Located in central Havana, the alley is brightly decorated in Cuban sculptures, art and paintings. You might also be able to catch a glimpse of a dance exhibition or meet Lazaro Salsita, who opens his home to teach neighbourhood children the art of papier-mâché. Make sure you check out Local artist Salvador González Escalona’s neighbourhood makeover.



DAY NINE AND TEN: CIGAR FACTORY AND RUM MUSEUM

When anyone mentions Cuba two of the first things that come to mind are Cigars and Rum cocktails, immortalized by Hemingway.

Cuba has a long history of producing the world’s best cigars and rum, and today you will be able to see for yourself how both of these famous exports are produced and learn all about their history and importance to Cuba’s economy.

Today you can visit the Havana Rum Museum, housed in a converted old Palace where you can see the entire production process for this valuable export. Of course you will have the chance to taste some good rum in the Havana Club and also buy some to take home with you.

The next stop might be the Hotel Conde de Villanueva, an attractively restored 18th century mansion in the historic centre of the city. The

hotel has one of the most popular cigar shops in town, and many people have personal humidors here to store their precious cigars. Here you will meet a “torcedor” or cigar roller, who will answer all your questions while you watch him go about his special craft. At the end of the demonstration you can do a cigar and coffee tasting, and buy some of the freshly-rolled cigars.

From here you will go to visit el Floridita, one of Hemingway’s favourite bars to sample a genuine Cuban daiquiri before moving on to the Partagas Cigar Factory where the mystique behind cigar making will be revealed, and you will find out why Cuban cigars are so revered. Even non-smokers and teetotallers will enjoy the tour and get a deeper understanding of the history and culture of this fascinating city.

Please note that Day Ten is the **departure day** with no activities planned for the remainder of your time in Cuba. You will fly from Havana to Mexico City today.

DAY ELEVEN: 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, check out the Frida Kahlo Museum, or relax in one of the many parks, plazas and gardens.

Accommodation

- Hotel (1 night)

Optional Activities

- Mexico City - Frida Kahlo Museum (Cheaper for students, pensioners & on weekdays. Closed Mondays) - MXN200

Meals Included

There are no meals included on this day.

Special Information

If your Short Break Adventure starts on a Sunday, please note the activities on Days 2 and 3 will be switched as the Museums are closed on Mondays.

DAY TWELVE: MEXICO CITY SIGHTSEEING

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).

Accommodation

- Hotel (1 night)

Included Activities

- Mexico City Tour - Urban Adventures

Optional Activities

- Mexico City - Palace of Fine Arts (Palacio de Bellas Artes) (Closed Mondays) - MXN60

Meals Included

- Breakfast

DAY THIRTEEN: MEXICO CITY SIGHTSEEING & TEOTIHUACAN PYRAMIDS

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.

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 & Dinner with the locals - Urban Adventures

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY FOURTEEN: MEXICO CITY TO AUSTRALIA

There are no activities planned for the final day, before it's time to head to the airport for your departure.

Meals Included

- Breakfast

ABOUT YOUR CUBA TOUR:

ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIMES

How long does it take to travel between destinations on this 10 Day Cuba Group Tour? It's not as though we're going to whisk you from town to town as fast as possible. A leisurely pace of life is something the Cuban people pride themselves on, so on a longer journey we will of course stop for lunch, a chance to stretch your legs, and to take a closer look at the beautiful countryside.

From Havana to Cienfuegos (via Bay of Pigs): 5 hours

From Cienfuegos to Trinidad (via Santa Clara): 4 hours

From Trinidad to Viñales: 7 to 8 hours

From Viñales to Havana: 3 hours

TRANSPORTATION

For the greatest efficiency and comfort, all of our Cuba group tours use a mixture of private transportation, local Viazul bus and taxi.

SPENDING MONEY ON TOUR

Everyone is different in the amount of money they will spend on one of our Cuba group tours. Your main expenses on our 10 Day Cuba Group Tour will be food, drinks, airport departure transportation, souvenirs, optional activities, and tips. For our 10 Day Cuba Group tour we estimate that you will need between USD\$400 – USD\$550 for expenses

OUR SINGLE SUPPLEMENT POLICY

If you've ever been a solo explorer, you'll know the annoyance of having to pay a supplement in order to have a single room. That's not our style, so we waive the single supplement on all our Cuba group tours. You have the option of sharing rooms if you want – it's entirely up to you.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Our small Cuba group tours include your arrival transfer from the airport on arrival. When you're ready to leave, your local Cuban guide can arrange your airport transfer on departure at local prices.

FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

As a minimum, you will need an average level of fitness and mobility to join this tour. Partaking in small group travel can be more physically demanding than your more conventional holidays. You should be able to walk without the aid of another person, climb a couple of flights of stairs, step on and off buses and other forms of transport, and carry your own luggage.

GETTING READY TO TRAVEL TO CUBA

Do you need any further information about what to expect when you visit this magnificent country? Take a look at our comprehensive Cuba travel guide to learn more, and to start planning your Cuban adventure.

INCLUSIONS

English-speaking local Cuban guide, transportation between destinations, 9 breakfasts, airport transfer on arrival

Plus:

Orientation walks at each destination, Havana city tour in classic car, visit to a Vinales tobacco farm, Che memorial & museum, informal salsa lesson in Trinidad

or Vinales, 1 x drink at the Palacio de Valle in Cienfuegos, Havana Rum Museum, Cigar Factory, Callejon de Hammel, Old Havana Walking Tour

There are also a range of optional activities and excursions you can enjoy on all of our Cuba group tours

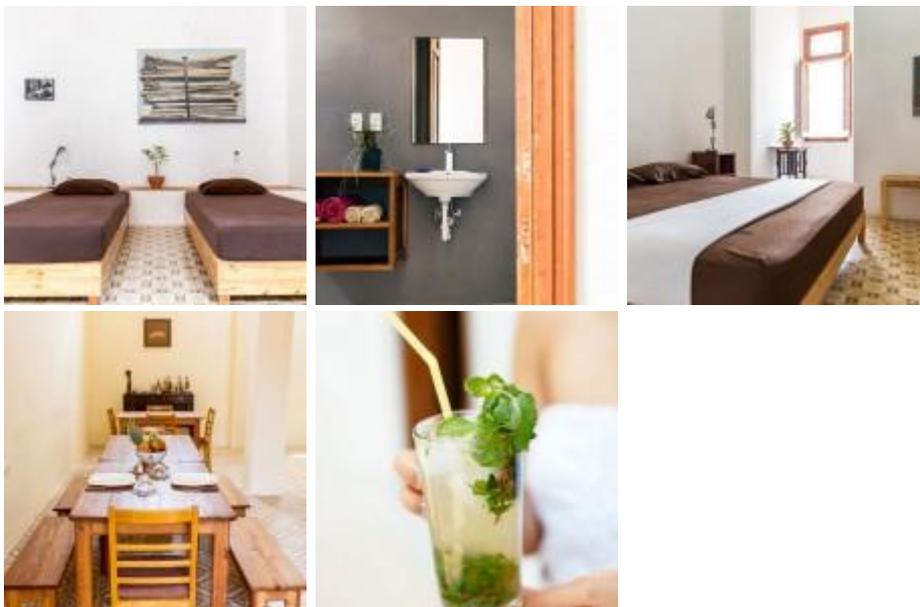
EXCLUSIONS

All lunches and dinners (unless specified), travel insurance, Cuba Visitor Visa & passport costs, drinks, Tips & Gifts, optional activities.

ACCOMMODATION ON TOUR

Our Cuba group tours use only the best Casa Particulares – Cuban B&B's. These Cuban Bed and Breakfast establishments offer a taste of authentic life on the island. You will be staying as a guest of a family in private accommodation. You'll have privacy while still being able to interact with the locals as much as you want. It's a stark difference to most types of accommodation, and you will truly be made to feel welcome – you might forget that you're a paying guest and not a long lost family friend!

A number of accommodation options are in older buildings without an elevator. If you have issues with mobility and will be unable to comfortably climb several flights of stairs, please let us know. We can happily find you a wonderful alternative to suit your needs. We've got you covered if you want to spend a few extra days in Havana before or after your Cuba group tour. Just use our easy online form when you make your booking.



One of our favourite Casa's in Havana, Casa Alta-Habana is located right in the heart of Havana Vieja just next to the beautiful Plaza Vieja.



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/>



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, unless required earlier by any supplier.

PRICES

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

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

Any deviation to packages advertised or quotes will incur a fee of \$150 per person.

Should you need to alter your confirmed reservations, there will be an automatic fee charged of \$150 per amendment or transaction, plus any new arrangements made. Additionally, there may be cancellation fees levied by the tour operator or fees may be applicable where arrangements have been pre-purchased.

In addition, we charge

- \$50 per person for all airline seat reservations and baggage charges plus any airline fees.
- \$100 per person for all Tourist visa processing plus the cost for the visa fee.
- \$75 per person to reissue any travel documents lost in the mail.
- \$100 per person to process insurance claims when travel insurance has not been purchased from this office.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.



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