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# **CUBA TOUR & CARIBBEAN CRUISE 20 days from \$4999**

Per person twin share, including flights from Australia



**Fly-Cruise-Tour Package Departs Saturdays:  
10 October to 10 Nov 2019  
02 February to 15 March & 01 to 31 May 2020**

**Prices with Inside Cabin:**

Ex Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane:	from \$4999 per person twin share
Ex Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide:	from \$5299 per person twin share
Ex Perth:	from \$5599 per person twin share

*The above prices are flying with Qantas, Virgin Australia, Delta and America Airlines, from Australia via Miami to Havana.*

**Cabin Upgrades:**

Oceanview Cabin	from \$800 per person twin share
Balcony Cabin	from \$1000 per person twin share

**Package Includes:**

- Return economy airfares from Australia to Miami & Havana
- 1 night Holiday Inn Miami
- 7 nights Caribbean Cruise on MSC Seaside – round trip from Miami, including all meals and entertainment on board
- 10 nights Casa B & Bs in Cuba with daily breakfast
- Cuba private transportation, local Viazul bus
- English-speaking Tours Guides in Cuba
- Cuba small group tour maximum 12 passengers

**Excludes:**

- Single supplement
- Visa & ESTA fees
- Travel insurance (required)
- Miami airport & cruise port transfers
- Cuba hotel to airport transfer
- Meals, sightseeing & shore excursions not specified in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature, such as drinks, snacks, WiFi, laundry etc
- Any items or services not listed in the above inclusions or in the itinerary

*Subject to confirmation by the airlines, hotels & cruise operator.  
Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.*

**Book by 30 November, 2019, or until sold out!**

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

## ABOUT THIS HOLIDAY PACKAGE

Our Caribbean cruise and vivacious Cuba tour condenses some of the very best sites, sounds and sensations into a fun-filled, culture-laden adventure.

Enjoy the next generation of cruising aboard state-of-the-art MSC Seaside. This fabulous Caribbean cruise will take you to stunning ports in Jamaica, Cayman Islands, Mexico and Bahamas. Then the excitement doesn't stop there with your next stop, Cuba!

On our Cuba Small Group Tour, 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.

Highlights in Cuba:

- Rest your weary head at a Cuban Bed and Breakfast, known as a Casa Particular. Experience the warmth of Cuban hospitality by staying with a Cuban family, who will make you feel right at home.
- No Spanish? No problem. Our local Cuban guides speak English so you'll never feel left out during your Cuba group tour.
- Try out some sultry salsa steps by dancing the night away. We'll show you where the best spots are
- Visit a Cigar Factory and Rum Museum in Havana
- Visit a Havana Jazz Club
- Lose yourself in Havana's magnificent Old Town (La Habana Vieja). Of course, we won't actually let you get lost since we know this city like no other
- Visit vibrant Viñales – the home of Cuba's tobacco production and scenery to die for
- Immerse yourself in warm Caribbean waters.
- Take in the final resting place of the revered Che Guevara

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Fly to Miami USA

Depart Australia and fly to Miami, USA. Overnight Holiday Inn Port of Miami

### Day 2 Caribbean Cruise

Catch a taxi to the Miami cruise port and check in for your Caribbean cruise aboard MSC Seaside.

DAY	PORT OF CALL	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
2	Miami, USA		07:00 PM
3	At Sea		
4	Ocho Rios, Jamaica	09:00 AM	05:00 PM
5	George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands	08:00 AM	04:00 PM
6	Cozumel, Mexico	10:00 AM	06:00 PM
7	At Sea		
8	Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve, Bahamas	09:00 AM	11:55 PM
9	Miami, USA	07:00 AM	

### Day 9: Miami to Havana

Catch a taxi to the airport for your flight to Havana in Cuba. Arrive Havana, where you will be met at the airport and transferred to stay overnight in your centrally located Casa B & B.



### DAY 10: 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 11: 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 Cuba’s most important musicians in the first half of the 20th century.



### **DAY 12 & 13: 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 14 & 15: 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 16 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 17: 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 congregates, 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 18 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.

## DAY 19 DEPARTURE DAY

Please note that Day 19 is the **departure day** with no activities planned, meaning you are free to depart Havana at any time for your flight back to Australia.

## DAY 20 ARRIVE HOME

### ACCOMMODATION

Cuban B&B's/ Casa Particulares - 10 nights

### 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.



## **MSC Seaside Overview**

MSC Seaside sails year round from Miami to the Caribbean. She offers two 7-night itineraries: to the Western Caribbean visiting Jamaica (Ocho Rios), Mexico (Cozumel) and the Caymans (George Town); and to the Eastern Caribbean calling at Puerto Rico (San Juan), St Maarten (Philipsburg) and the Bahamas (Nassau). The

majority of cruisers join the two 7-night itineraries for a fortnight's relaxation. Now that MSC is reaching across the Atlantic, the Line has 'Americanised' its style. MSC has designed this latest generation of cruise ships blending indoor and outdoor areas to connect you with the sea. Circling the entire ship is a seafront promenade lined with places to eat, drink, shop, swim and sunbake. One can enjoy superb views from the two-deck glass-walled atrium, panoramic elevators and from the glass skywalk, giving a jaw-dropping view of the sea below! The MSC for Me app uses digital technology to connect you with guests, the crew and the ship. Fodor's Travel 2019 awarded MSC Runner-Up for "The Best Family Cruise."

### **Accommodation**

The ship features open, modular, connected staterooms, convertible staterooms and cluster cabins for families and groups, and luxury suites with private jacuzzis and hanging gardens. In all there are 11 stateroom types. They include yacht club royal, deluxe, and interior suites; family-size suites with balconies; grand suites; and standard balcony, outside and interior rooms. Roughly 72% of the cabins will have a balcony and 76% will be located outside. All staterooms feature double beds (or two singles), wardrobe, bathroom with tub and shower, air-conditioning, mini bar and safe, interactive TV, telephone, and WiFi connection (for a fee). There's a turndown service to prepare your bed each night. Higher stateroom 'Experiences' move you to a higher deck and offer more perks.

### **Food and Dining**

MSC Seaside has nine dining options, four of which are complimentary. There are two main dining rooms and two buffets. The principal dining rooms have open seating for breakfast and lunch, and two seatings for dinner. (Incidentally, instead of paying for bottled water in dining rooms – a Continental custom – fill your own bottle in your cabin, chill it in the mini-bar, and bring it with you at meal times.) 'Anytime' dining is available for guests in higher cabins. Expect a formal evening during a cruise. Children have the option of their own dining area, time and menu. Dietary requests must be submitted on a form ahead of time, and may be payable. Note that items in casual dining may also be pay extra – good coffees and so

on. There's no tea or coffee for lunch and dinner in the dining rooms, only in the buffet. You may have to ask for milk.

## Entertainment

The line offers a rich program of shows, Broadway and Las Vegas-style theatrical performances, live music and nightlife. Fast-moving commentary comes in up to six languages, depending on your cruise location. Many productions will be visual rather than spoken. (Announcements are kept to matters of emergency, as most information appears on the daily newssheet.) There's plenty of live music, dancing and special activities to keep you awake till late. Children and teenagers have five age-group centres and activities, while adults in the Yacht Club have the top deck to themselves. Youngsters access brand products from LEGO and Chicco. The Amusement Park and Aqua Park are adjoining, and certainly will become the focus for younger ones.



ATAS Accreditation Number: A10718

ATAS vets travel agents against strict criteria to ensure they meet certain standards, are reliable and professional businesses. ATAS agents need to meet high levels 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 stringent requirements in order to become nationally accredited. Our accreditation means we are the best in the industry, credible and a professional business that takes pride in its staff being expertly trained. 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 operators that currently do not sell their holidays in Australia and we have approached these reputable businesses to represent them 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.



## **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 120 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 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](http://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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