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MEXICO & CUBA

Escorted Tour

30 days from \$6999

Per person twin share, including flights from Australia



**HURRY, MUST BOOK BY 29 FEBRUARY, 2020
TO GET THIS SPECIAL DEAL!**

**Call Destination International on 1300 813 391
www.ditravel.com.au**

This tour combines two amazing tours to Mexico and Cuba. With the in-depth cultural Classic Mexico Adventure, you have a tour package taking you from Mexico City to Playa del Carmen and exploring 10 other destinations in Mexico. Classic Mexico Adventure includes hotel accommodation, being escorted by an expert guide, meals, transport and more.

On our Majestic Cuba 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.

Departure Dates:

2020 - 25 April, 16 May, 08 Aug, 10, 24 Oct, 21 Nov

2021 - 13, 27 Feb, 13, 27 March

Your Package Includes:

- Return economy airfares from Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane to Mexico City, Cancun and Havana, Cuba. Contact us for other Australian cities.
- 29 nights accommodation in a mixture of hotels in Mexico & Casa B & Bs in Cuba.
- Private transportation, local Viazul bus, taxi and an internal flight (Cancun to Havana) (Baracoa to Havana).
- Breakfast Daily
- English Speaking Tours Guides

Excludes:

- Visa fees
- Single supplement, if you wish to have your own room
- Travel insurance (required)
- Airport transfers
- Meals & sightseeing not specified in the itinerary
- Optional tours
- Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, WiFi, laundry etc
- Any items or services not listed in the inclusions or in the itinerary

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

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for enquiries & reservations.**

The Deal:

If you want to experience all the flavours of Mexico you're going to need more than just tacos and tequila — the music, the history, and the people all have a little something you'll crave. Cities, beaches, jungle, and the curious spices of mole sauce all await on this tour that lets you hit the beach, discover the ruins of the Mayans, and wander colonial cities. Think of this as Mexico 101 without the pop quiz.

On our Mexico tour: Meet your tour guide and Group. Guided tour of Teotihuacan. Orientation walk in Puebla. Orientation walk and market visit in Oaxaca. Guided tour of Palenque ruins site. Campeche visit. Orientation walk in Mérida. Guided tour of Chichén Itzá. Free time in Puebla, Oaxaca, and Playa del Carmen. Internal flight. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

Highlights - Climb the Pyramid of the Sun at Teotihuacan, Sample mezcal at a local distillery, Explore the ruins at Tulúm, Lounge on the incredible beach of Playa del Carmen

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 Cuba Majestic Group Tour.

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

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Mexico City

We recommend arriving a day or two early to fully explore this bustling metropolis. Talk to your agent about booking pre-tour accommodation.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Posada Viena (*or similar*).

Included Activities:

- Meet Your tour guide and Group

Day 2: Mexico City (1B)

Enjoy free time to explore Mexico City. Opt to check out the sprawling zócalo (main square), visit the Frida Kahlo museum in vibrant Coyoacán, or view impressive Mayan and Aztec artifacts at the National Anthropology Museum.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Posada Viena (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Day 3: Mexico City/Puebla (1B)

Rise early and explore the ancient city of Teotihuacan on a guided tour. Work up a sweat climbing the Pyramid of the Sun and the Pyramid of the Moon, and be rewarded by sweeping views of the ruins site. Travel to Puebla and enjoy an orientation walk downtown.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Gilfer (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Transport:

- Private Vehicle: Teotihuacán to Puebla 02:00 - 03:00 Hr(s)

Included Activities:

- Teotihuacán Pyramids Visit
 - Orientation Walk
-

Day 4: Puebla (1B)

Enjoy a free day to explore the city. Opt to visit a ceramics workshop, check out the pyramid of nearby Cholula, sample delicious local specialties, or watch a lucha libre wrestling match at night.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Gilfer (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast
-

Day 5: Puebla/Oaxaca (1B)

Journey south to beautiful Oaxaca, and get a feel for the city on an orientation walk, stopping to visit one of its sprawling markets.

Accommodation:

- Oaxaca Real (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Transport:

- First-class bus 05:00 - 06:00 Hr(s)

Included Activities:

- Orientation Walk

Day 6: Oaxaca (1B)

Take advantage of free time, and opt to explore the ruins at Monte Alban, learn to make mole in a cooking class, buy local handicrafts at nearby artisan villages, or samples some mezcal at a local distillery - look out for the worm!

Accommodation:

- Oaxaca Real (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Day 7: Oaxaca/Palenque (1B)

Travel in style and fly to Villahermosa, then transfer to Palenque by land.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Mayabell (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Transport:

- Plane

- Private Vehicle: Villahermosa to Palenque 02:00 - 03:00 Hr(s)

Day 8: Palenque (1B)

Enjoy a guided tour of the Mayan ruins of Palenque, set in the jungle of Chiapas. Opt for a jungle walk in the afternoon.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Mayabell (*or similar*).

Meals Included:- Breakfast

Included Activities:

- Palenque Ruins Guided Tour
-

Day 9: Palenque/Mérida (1B)

Travel to the Yucatán Peninsula, stopping off in the seaside historic city of Campeche. Upon arrival in Mérida, enjoy an orientation walk to get to know the city's layout and attractions.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Santa Maria (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Transport:

- Private Vehicle: Campeche to Mérida 02:30 - 03:00 Hr(s)

Included Activities:

- Orientation Walk
-

Day 10: Mérida (1B)

Enjoy a free day to explore Mérida and surroundings. Opt to visit the Mayan ruins of Uxmal or explore the main square and historic buildings of Mérida.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Santa Maria (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast
-

Day 11: Mérida/Valladolid (1B)

Explore the ancient Mayan City of Chichén Itzá with a guided tour, then continue on to the quaint city of Valladolid. Opt to cool off with a swim in a nearby cenote, a natural water-filled sinkhole.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Colonial La Aurora (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Transport:

- Private Vehicle: Chichén-Itzá to Valladolid 01:00 Hr(s)

Included Activities:

- Chichén Itzá Guided Tour
-

Day 12: Valladolid/Playa del Carmen (1B, 1D)

Travel to Playa del Carmen to lounge on Mayan Riviera beaches. Enjoy dinner at a G Adventures-supported community restaurant with a youth-focused art program.

Accommodation:

- Hotel Nautilus (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

Transport:

- Private Vehicle: Valladolid to Playa del Carmen

Included Activities:

- El Hongo Mexican Community Restaurant & Youth Art Program
-

Day 13, 14, 15: Playa del Carmen (1B)

Opt to explore the Mayan ruins of Tulum or just play in the waves and enjoy the beach!

Free days to explore Playa del Carmen at leisure

Accommodation:

- Hotel Nautilus (*or similar*).

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Day 16: Playa del Carmen (1B)

Depart at any time.

Meals Included:

- Breakfast

Included Activities:

- Departure Day

Additional Notes: The Cancún airport is approximately 1 hour from Playa del Carmen. There are frequent public buses and shuttles from Playa del Carmen to the airport throughout the day.

Day 16: Fly to Cuba





DAY 16: 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 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 cobblestoned 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 17: 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 18, 19, 20: 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 21 & 22: 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!

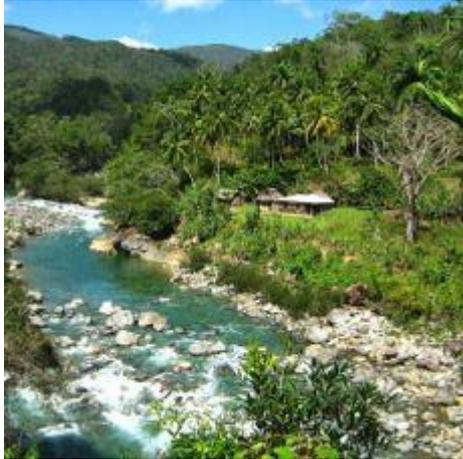


DAY 23 & 24: SANTIAGO DE CUBA

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 25, 26 & 27: 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 28, 29 & 30: 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 Cuba Group Tour – enjoy!

Please note that Day 30 is the tour **departure day** with no activities planned, meaning you are free to depart at any time.

THE MOST POPULAR OF OUR CUBA GROUP TOURS – BEGINS IN HAVANA

- 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

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.

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.

ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIMES

Below are the estimated travel times between destinations on this 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.

Please note: The day by day descriptions published are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and a multitude of other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that ultimately are for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible and open minded in this regard.

**Not ready to go home yet?
We can help you see more and extend your holiday with great travel deals.**

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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

- \$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

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.

This office will charge a 15% cancellation fee on all refundable portions of a cancelled tour. All tour cancellations must be received in writing.

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. 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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