



# **LATIN MAGIC – Discover Mexico & Cuba 19 days from \$5399**

Per person twin share, including flights from Australia



**Book and pay 50% deposit by 29 November 2019**

**Call Destination International on 1300 813 391**

**[www.ditravel.com.au](http://www.ditravel.com.au)**

## Departures in 2020: March 14, 21, April 25, June 6, September 19\*, October 10, 31, November 07, 21

### Inclusions

- Return economy airfares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane (a surcharge applies for other departure cities)
- 11 nights local Casa B&Bs in Cuba
- 7 nights hotel accommodation in Mexico
- Sightseeing as per itinerary in a private vehicle
- Breakfast Daily and other delicious meals as stated in the itinerary
- English Speaking Tours Guides in Cuba and Mexico respectively
- Entrance fees as per itinerary

### Special Features

- GUIDED ORIENTATION WALKS AT EACH DESTINATION VISITED
- SWIM / SNORKEL – BAY OF PIGS
- CHE GUEVARA MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM – SANTA CLARA
- INFORMAL SALSA LESSON – TRINIDADOR VINALES
- TOBACCO FARM AND DRYING HOUSE – VINALES
- LUNCH AT AN ORGANIC FARM – VINALES
- CITY TOUR IN A CONVERTIBLE CLASSIC CAR – HAVANA
- MOJITO MAKING CLASS – HAVANA
- ROOFTOP DINNER – HAVANA
- RUM MUSEUM – HAVANA
- PARTAGAS CIGAR FACTORY – HAVANA
- VISIT CALLEJON DE HAMEL – HAVANA
- OLD HAVANA WALKING TOUR – HAVANA
  
- Tour the world-famous National Museum of Anthropology, the largest museum in Mexico
- Explore Mexico City's historic centre including the National Palace, Palacio de Bellas Artes
- Visit Cuernavaca, the capital of the state of Morelos, known as the "City of Eternal Spring"
- A walking tour of Oaxaca, reveals lavish colonial mansions and historic buildings
- Admire the intricate stone mosaics that adorn many of the walls of the Mitla ruins
- Observe a weaving demonstration at Teotitlan del Valle, renowned for its weaving wares
- Tour of a Mezcal distillery, learn about the process of producing it and enjoy a tasting



## Exclusions

- Single supplement
- Visa costs (Cuba tourist card)
- Travel Insurance (essential)
- Airline seat selection fees
- Hotel Tourism Fees
- Optional tours
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature
- Anything else not listed in the itinerary

*Booking Conditions apply. Subject to confirmation from airlines & tour operators.*

*Want to extend your holiday? Ask us how! Call our team on 1300 813 391*



# Itinerary

## **DAY 1 – Depart for Cuba**

Depart for Havana today. Arrive in Cuba to commence your tour. You will be met upon arrival at the airport and transferred to your accommodation for the evening in Havana.

**Overnight:** Havana

## **DAY 2 – Havana free day**

How to sum up Havana? This complex, culturally-rich, and fascinatingly contradictory city can perhaps be described in a single word: Alive. There's a lot of hustle and bustle, but our expert local guides will ensure that your Cuba group tour will never be overwhelming. The first day of your time in Cuba is considered to be a joining day. While there are no activities planned on this first part of the tour, your accommodation will have been arranged and you have the option to meet your guide and fellow tour members for a delicious dinner.

The heart of this scintillating city is undoubtedly Havana's Old Town (La Habana Vieja). This UNESCO World Heritage Site is a sublime assault on your senses, with the beauty of the colonial era architecture combining with the spirit of the locals to make an experience that almost feels like some kind of immersive theatre production. Many of the main points of interest are within a conveniently close proximity to each other, so you can experience much of the city on foot (so be sure to pack some comfortable walking shoes).

**Overnight:** Havana

**Meals:** Breakfast

## **DAY 3 – Cienfuegos via Bay of Pigs**

Cienfuegos is often referred to as the Paris of the Caribbean, but upon arrival, you'll wonder why anyone needs to compare this pearl of a city to anywhere else. There's also a treat on the way to Cienfuegos. We'll make a stop at Playa Girón, which is otherwise known as the Bay of Pigs. This infamous spot was where the US attempted to stage an invasion of Cuba, which was ultimately a failure... and a big one at that.

At the Bay of Pigs, you can visit the local museum to learn more about the area's history and there will also be time for some swimming and snorkelling on one of Cuba's best reefs.

And then it's time to go to Cienfuegos, whose Parisian comparisons come from the French settlers who made the city their home. Many of them came to Cuba from other territories in the New World and their architectural influence on the city is obvious.

The wide boulevards and expansive parklands are ravishing, and history is on proud display at every turn. 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 on your Cuba group tour. Take a gentle stroll through Parque José Martí, and then spend some time sitting by the oceanfront Malecón. Though perhaps not as well-known as the walkway of the same name in Havana, the Malecón in Cienfuegos is actually the longest seaside esplanade in the whole country.

**Overnight:** Cienfuegos

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 4 – Trinidad via Santa Clara**

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 city of Trinidad where you will spend the next 2 nights.

**Overnight:** Trinidad

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 5 – Trinidad**

The favourite destination of many a traveller 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!

**Overnight:** Trinidad

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAYS 6 & 7 – Viñales**

How will you know you're getting close to Viñales on your Cuba group tour? Perhaps it will be the red, rich, fertile soil. Maybe it will be the mogotes – dramatic, circular rock formations that look like a beauty mark jutting upwards from the earth. Maybe it's the fact that your guide will start to excitedly tell you that you're almost there! 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. A closer exploration of this remarkable farmland with a succulent lunch at an organic farm is going to be a highlight during your time in Cuba.

When the sun goes down, the village of Viñales comes out to play. There is a remarkable energy to the township, which is deceptive given its relaxed, laid-back atmosphere.

**Overnight:** Viñales

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch (day 7)

#### **DAY 8 – Return to Havana**

Oh Havana, you're so heavenly. It's time to head back to the Cuban capital for the last days of your tour. There will be a number of arranged activities, plus plenty of chances to explore at your own leisure. Don't forget that there are a couple of amazing treats waiting for you during these last days of your Cuba group tour. You'll get to see all the different elements of the city while on four wheels in one of those classic American cars that the island is famous for. You'll also be taken to one of our favourite spots in the whole city, a rooftop terrace in Havana's Old Town.

You will be taught how to make a delicious mojito (or a non-alcoholic alternative if you prefer) before enjoying a stunning dinner with your guide and the fellow members of your Cuba group tour. Is there a better way to end your time in Cuba than with a relaxing dinner while watching the sun go down over one of the most glorious cities in the world?

**Overnight:** Havana

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### **DAY 9 – Havana walking tour**

Time to put on your walking shoes for a walking tour of Havana's Old Town. You'll get to know her like an old friend as you walk through her ravishing network of plazas, essentially the places that the city was built around. Old Havana is the village where the modern city grew from. It was once a walled settlement (to protect the fledgling outpost from pirates and hostile foreign forces). Of course, Havana couldn't be contained, and her history will come to life as your expert guide leads you along her streets. Speaking of streets, this portion of your 10 day Cuba group tour includes a stop on the Callejon de Hammel. This nifty little street is where a number of local artists chose to live and work. And like the boundaries of Havana, their creativity couldn't be contained. The street is basically one big artist's studio, with lavish, vibrant murals and street art.

**Overnight:** Havana

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 10 – Cigar Factory & Rum Museum**

Your 10 day Cuba group tour needs some time to get familiar with some of Cuba's finest products, and this will definitely be the case. The Havana Rum Museum is housed in a colonial-era mansion in the heart of the city and details the history and cultural significance of this heavenly drink, and naturally there will be chances to taste the product. Next on the agenda is the Partagas Cigar Factory where the mystique behind cigar making will be revealed, allowing you to gain a sense of the significance of these beauties. You will also witness firsthand the amount of effort, care and tradition that goes into making these Cuban treasures (even non-smokers will find this tour very interesting).

**Overnight:** Havana

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 11 – Havana free day**

Spend one final day in Havana at your leisure. Use this opportunity to catch up on some of the things you wanted to do but may have missed out on, or maybe you can revisit some of your favourite sites, activities, or venues.

**Overnight:** Havana

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 12 - Depart Cuba for Mexico**

Welcome to Mexico City, a thriving metropolis and the nation's capital and transfer to the hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure with time to rest, relax and acquaint yourself with Mexico's vibrant capital, first built by the Aztecs in the 1300s.

**Overnight:** Mexico City

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 13 - Museum of Anthropology, Mexico City's Historic Center**

The day begins with a visit to the National Museum of Anthropology, the largest and most visited museum in all of Mexico. Learn from the vast collection of archaeological treasures from pre-Hispanic civilizations. After lunch, take a tour of Mexico City's Centro Historico. Stop at the Zocalo (Central Square), the second largest plaza in the world; view the National Palace\* known for Diego Rivera's dramatic murals depicting thousands of years of Mexican history. Travel past the city's iconic buildings including the art nouveau Palacio de Bellas Artes and the Metropolitan Cathedral, the largest in the Americas. Tonight, attend an orientation meeting with you Tour Manager and fellow travellers, followed by a Welcome Dinner to get to know everyone.

*\*The visit to Diego Rivera's murals is subject to unexpected closures that occur for political activities, renovations and routine maintenance.*

**Overnight:** Mexico City

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 14 - Historic Cuernavaca, Atlixco, Drive to Puebla**

Leaving the city, travel to Cuernavaca, the capital of the state of Morelos. Embark on a walking tour of its historic centre. View Plaza de Armas, admire the magnificent architecture, a blend of Gothic and Moorish style of the Palacio de Cortes and the 16th century Cathedral de la Asuncion.

After lunch, travel to Atlixco, boasting the best climate in the country, located along the slopes of Popocatepetl volcano. Take an orientation walk of the charming downtown before continuing to Puebla. Upon arrival, check in to the hotel. The evening is free to explore the city's charm and exquisite regional cuisine on your own.

**Overnight:** Puebla

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

### **DAY 15 - Colonial Puebla**

This morning, tour the picturesque Centro Historico de Puebla. Admire gorgeous views of the stunning cathedral, a wealth of beautiful churches, and colonial buildings adorned with Talavera ceramic tiles for which the city is famous. Balance of the day is at leisure, or join the *optional* Half Day Cholula with lunch. A short drive from Puebla transports you to the city of Cholula with its more than 3,000 years of history. After lunch, begin the exploration of the city and marvel at the Mexican Baroque style churches.

Continue to the Great Pyramid, the largest pyramid in the world. Spend time wandering through its tunnels, visit the church of los Remedios at the top and admire panoramic views of the area. Return to Puebla for an evening at leisure.

**Optional:** Half Day Cholula with lunch (PM)

**Overnight:** Puebla

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 16 - Travel to Oaxaca**

Depart Puebla and travel to Oaxaca, a bastion of indigenous culture and colonial history. The drive will take you through craggy mountains, remote villages, valleys, and volcanoes looming on the horizon. Stop for lunch along the way and later continue your drive to Oaxaca. Arrive at the hotel in the afternoon. After time to settle in, take an orientation walk with your Tour Manager, followed by dinner together.

**Overnight:** Oaxaca

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 17 - Explore Cultural Oaxaca**

Spend a leisurely morning in Oaxaca today, or join the *optional* to Monte Albán archaeological site, an ancient centre of Zapotec and Mixtec culture. After a short drive, arrive at the impressive pre-Columbian ruins, located on a mountaintop with stunning views of the Oaxaca Valley. Tour the complex, filled with temples, pyramids, magnificent tombs and learn about the Zapotec culture. Afterward, return back to the hotel.

In the afternoon, take a walking tour of Oaxaca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. As you stroll along the picturesque streets of the city's historic centre, view lavish colonial mansions, Santo Domingo Church, Museum of Cultures, Centro Cultural Santo Domingo, Government House and the Zocalo (Main Square). Conclude the tour at the colourful local market with stalls brimming with textiles, jewellery, fresh produce and much more.

**Optional:** Half Day Monte Albán (AM)

**Overnight:** Oaxaca

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 18 - Mitla, Teotitlan Del Valle, Mezcal Distillery**

Begin the day with a drive to the archaeological site of Mitla, which means "place of the dead", known for its unique architecture. Admire the intricate stone mosaics that adorn many of the walls of the ruins. Proceed to the Zapotec village of Teotitlan del Valle and observe a weaving demonstration. Marvel at the beautiful wool weavings before sharing lunch at the artisan's home. Later, visit a Mezcal distillery. Tour the facility and learn about the process of producing this alcoholic drink from any type of agave. Conclude your visit with a tasting, before departing for Oaxaca. En route, stop to visit Santa Maria del Tule, known for its giant 2,000-year-old cypress tree. Tonight, bid adios to your newfound friends and Tour Manager at the Farewell Dinner.

**Overnight:** Oaxaca

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 19 - Depart Mexico for Australia**

The tour ends after breakfast this morning. Transfer to the airport for your final departure back to Australia.

**Meals:** Breakfast



**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.**

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



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.



**Destination International Holidays**  
**920 Glenferrie Road**  
**Kew VIC 3101**  
**Phone 1300 813 391**  
**[www.ditravel.com.au](http://www.ditravel.com.au)**