

# CUBA & THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS - CLASSIC CUBA



TRIP CODE
CUTSCLC
DURATION
11 Days
LOCATIONS
Cuba


## INTRODUCTION

Discover vibrant Cuba with 11 days of rich culture, history and natural beauty. Beginning in Havana, step through time and discover the old city. Visiting many cities and sites, you will cover Cuba from east to west, enjoying the sun, the sand and also tasting some of Cuba's delicious produce, from Havana rum to mangoes, coconuts and coffee. This tour covers it all!

## ITINERARY

DAY 1: Havana: Transfer Airport - Hotel

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office.



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### DAY 1: Havana

Cuba’s capital Havana is a vibrant city teeming with beautiful if sometimes shabby colonial buildings, once the most heavily fortified city in the Americas. The city was founded by the Spanish in the 16th century and it is now a diverse and fascinating mix of castles, fortresses and Spanish colonial buildings intermingled with modern high rises. The Old City (Habana Vieja), with its narrow streets and overhanging balconies is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the centre of the original city. Soak up the atmosphere as you sip on a Mojito, a refreshing blend of rum, lime, sugar, mint leaves, soda water and ice or maybe sample a Cuba Libre, made with rum, coke and lime.



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### DAY 2: Havana - City Tour

Get ready to enjoy an action packed day in Cuba’s capital city. First you will embark on a guided walking tour of Old Havana’s Historic Centre, taking in sites such as the Plaza de Armas, Plaza San Francisco de Asis, Plaza Viejay and Plaza de la Catedral. Here, you’ll visit some of Ernest Hemingway’s hangouts, such as the Ambos Mundos Hotel, La Bodeguita del Medio and El Floridita bar. After a much needed lunch in a local restaurant, you will be met by your private car and taken on a panoramic tour of the city, first visiting La Cabaña Fortress for a view of old and modern Havana across the bay, then touring modern Havana, stopping at Revolution Square and the Capitol Building. Following a busy day, the evening is yours to relax in the hotel or sample some of Havana’s world-class music.



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## DAY 3: Havana - Day Tour to Vinales Valley

Today your local guide will take you on a tour of the Vinales Valley in Pinar del Rio in the Sierra de los Organos Mountains - where the world’s best tobacco is grown. En-route visit a Cigar Factory to see how the famous Cuban cigars are made. Your guide will take you to visit the valley’s famous Mogotes, including the Pre-Historic Mural, which reflects the geological history of the Sierra de los Organos, and the Indian Cave, where you can take a boat along the underground river. After lunch you will have some free time to explore Vinales. On the way back to Havana you will stop at the Los Jazmines lookout point to enjoy the incredible view of the valley. The evening is yours to relax or enjoy a night of Cuban music. Why not visit the Casa de La Musica in Miramar?



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## DAY 4: Havana - Cienfuegos

After breakfast and check out, you will meet your local guide who will travel with you to Cienfuegos. On the way you will stop at ‘Fiesta Campesina’ on the Zapata Peninsula. The Zapata Peninsula is a National Park and UNESCO-declared Biosphere Reserve, covered by areas of wetland and dense forest. The Peninsula is a rich habitat for birds and other wildlife, including the mongoose and Cuban pygmy owl.



## DAY 4: Cienfuegos: City Tour

From here, you will continue on to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cienfuegos for a guided tour of the Historic Centre and City Boulevard. With its French influences, Cienfuegos is known as the ‘Pearl of the South” and has a spectacular setting around a natural bay. Drive along the bay to the Punta Gorda Peninsula for lunch at the Yacht Club.



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### DAY 4: Cienfuegos - Trinidad

At the appropriate time, continue to Trinidad where you will check into your hotel or private homestay.



### DAY 4: Trinidad

Trinidad is another UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is a beautifully preserved Spanish colonial settlement built on the back of the sugar and slave trade. At the peak of the sugar industry there were 56 sugar mills in the region. The town is lined with cobble-stoned streets and mansions adorned with Italian frescoes.



### DAY 5: Trinidad - City Tour

Meet your guide for a panoramic tour of Trinidad, where you'll walk the cobble streets of the oldest town in Cuba and visit sites such as La Canchanchara Bar, a former sugar Baron's house and the local church. You'll also stop at a market before having lunch at a local restaurant.



### DAY 6: Trinidad: Cayo Blanco

After breakfast you will be transferred to the marina for a Seafari catamaran excursion to Cayo Blanco. Once at the Cayo Blanco, the time is yours to snorkel, swim or relax on the beach. A full lunch and open bar is included in the tour.



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## DAY 7: Trinidad - Santa Clara - Cayo las Brujas

Today, you will have a private transfer to one of Cuba’s best beaches - Cayo las Brujas. Here, you can snorkel, dive, fish or simply relax on the white sand beach. On the way your driver will stop in Santa Clara, allowing you to visit Che Guevara’s Mausoleum.



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## DAY 7: Cayo las Brujas

Cayo las Brujas is a beautiful spot on the northern coast of Villa Clara complete with white sand beaches, crystal clear waters and coral reefs. A 48km causeway connects Villa Clara to the tropical offshore islets where Cayo las Brujas is located. Villa Clara is home to the Buenavista Biosphere Reserve containing protected ecosystems of coral reefs, mangroves, and dunes.



## DAY 8: Cayo Las Brujas - Free Day

Today is a free day for you to relax at the beach in Cayo Las Brujas, snorkel or dive.



## DAY 9: Cayo Las Brujas - Free Day

Today is a free day for you to relax at the beach in Cayo Las Brujas, snorkel or dive.



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DAY 10: Cayo Las Brujas: Transfer to Havana

At the appropriate time, you will be collected from your beach resort back and transferred to Havana where you will be dropped off at your hotel.



DAY 11: Havana: Transfer Hotel - Airport

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Hotels
Inclusions	Land transfers Accommodation Guided Tours & entrance fees Daily meals as stated Local flights Local taxes
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability.

## SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations

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including:

1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.

2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.

3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.

4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.

5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structured to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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