

Monica Trapaga Jazz festival Tour
Havana - Trinidad – Cienfuegos – Santa Clara
January 13th – 25th



DAY ONE: Monday, 13th January , 2020 (D)

Arrive Havana Cuba, clear customs and meet your tour-manager who will escort you to your waiting coach and transfer to Havana (approx. 30 minutes) Check into your Hotel. Enjoy late afternoon drinks in the gardens of the Hotel Nacional.
Dinner in local restaurant.

DAY TWO: Tuesday 14th January - HAVANA (B,L,D)

Morning Breakfast in hotel.

After breakfast, depart by coach for a sightseeing tour of Old Havana

Visit to the Museum of the Revolution and walk down the famous Prado where local artists and dancers gather on weekends for public exhibitions.

Lunch in Old Havana in a local cafe



Afternoon Continue with the sightseeing tour of Havana.

Return to your hotel. Enjoy an optional salsa lesson with professional Cuban salsa teachers. (\$15US per person)

Evening Free to explore your own dinner options.

After dinner enjoy the first night of the **Havana International Jazz Festival**

DAY THREE: Wednesday 15th January - HAVANA (B)

Morning Breakfast in hotel

Travel by coach to the home of the National Choir. This is one of the world's truly great choirs and you will have the opportunity to catch an impromptu concert.

After drop into the National Circus School where many of Cuba's exceptional circus performers are trained.



Afternoon free to explore Havana or catch some performances at the **Havana International Jazz Festival**. Explore your own lunch and dinner options

Evening After dinner attend performances at the **Havana International Jazz Festival**. **OR** Visit the 17th century Moro Fort overlooking Havana for the famous Canon Ceremony. There has been a canon fired there every night for over 300 years.

DAY FOUR Thursday 16th January - HAVANA (B)

Morning Breakfast in hotel

Relaxed start to the day

Enjoy a visit to the Partagas cigar factory and see how the world's finest cigars are produced in the traditional Cuban way.

Afternoon Free afternoon for Havana exploration. The jazz performances normally start around 3.00pm so there is plenty to listen to

Evening Attend performances at the **Havana International Jazz Festival**



DAY FIVE: Friday 17th January - HAVANA (B)

Morning Breakfast in hotel
 Relaxed morning to catch up on some rest.
 After we will visit the property of local artist Jose Fuster. Fuster has turned his house and indeed his whole neighbourhood into a homage to the famous Spanish architect, Gaudi.



Lunch in Havana

Afternoon Free afternoon for your own exploration and performances at the **Havana International Jazz Festival**

Evening Explore your own options for dinner After dinner enjoy performances of the **Havana International Jazz Festival**

DAY SIX: Saturday 18th January - HAVANA (B)

Morning Breakfast in your hotel.
 After breakfast we visit the home of Ernest Hemingway. When Hemingway died the house was left untouched; you can see this magnificent home, his belongings and grounds exactly as they were during his residence.



Afternoon Enjoy a tour around Havana in a 1950's convertible before more concerts at the **Havana International Jazz Festival**

Evening Explore your own options for dinner After dinner enjoy more performances of the **Havana International Jazz Festival**



DAY SEVEN: Sunday 19th January HAVANA (B,)

Morning Breakfast in hotel
 After a late breakfast we visit the dance one of Havana's dance companies where you can enjoy a demonstration of the evolution of Cuban dance, from afro Cuban to cha cha cha, mambo and beyond. Afternoon Lunch in Havana. Free afternoon for your own exploration and performances at the **Havana International Jazz Festival**

Evening Explore your own options for dinner
 After dinner enjoy more performances of the **Havana International Jazz Festival**



DAY EIGHT: Monday 20th January HAVANA - TRINIDAD (B,L,D)

Morning Breakfast as a group at the hotel.

After breakfast we load the coach and head to the city of Trinidad.

Afternoon Lunch in trinidad
 Enjoy a walking tour of Trinidad

It's easy to see why Trinidad is referred to as "the museum city". There hasn't been a new building added since the beginning of the 19th century, and the first road to Trinidad was opened in 1972. This meticulously preserved town offers a window into the past, from its sprawling colonial palaces and plazas to the remnants of sugar mills and slave barracks from another era. During your walking tour of this unique city, we will visit some of its fascinating museums, galleries and the artisan's market where you might pick up a few unique gifts.



Afternoon Return to your all-inclusive hotel. Enjoy a swim in the Caribbean and lap up a Caribbean sunset

Evening Dinner in the hotel

DAY NINE: Tuesday 21st January Trinidad (B,L,D)

Morning Breakfast as a group at the hotel. After breakfast we catch the steam train to the Valle de Ingenios valley to visit an 18th century sugar plantation.
Explore your own lunch options

Afternoon Travel by coach back to Trinidad Enjoy and afternoon on the beach o

Evening Dinner in the hotel. After dinner return to Trinidad for live music and dancing in the town square



DAY TEN: Wednesday 22nd January- CIENFUEGOS (B)

Morning Breakfast as a group at the hotel.
After breakfast pack the bus and head to Cienfuegos
Enjoy a walking tour of Cienfuegos. The unique culture in Cienfuegos is attributed its ancestry as a French enclave. This is the only French city in Cuba, with many French colonists moving here after the slave uprising in Haiti in 1791 with many more coming directly from Louisiana. The French influence is reflected in the wide streets and typical 19th century French colonial architecture. Our tour includes the Tomas Terry Theatre; one of the finest eclectic buildings in the region with both Spanish and French influences.



Afternoon Explore your own lunch options in Cienfuegos
Check into your hotel

Evening Possible cultural activity at the Thomas Terry theatre

DAY ELEVEN: Thursday 23rd January (B,D)

Morning After breakfast and travel a short distance to the city of Santa Clara. See the Che Guevara mausoleum and the museum where Che destroyed the armaments train, the pivotal moment in the revolution.

Afternoon Afternoon free time to explore the city centre and check into your hotel

Evening Enjoy and evening with Carlos and Rebecca. We have the chance to enjoy some Cuban hospitality in the home of Carlos and his family.



DAY TWELVE : Thursday 24th January - HAVANA (B,D)

Morning Breakfast in your hotel.
Return to Havana by coach.

Afternoon Check into your hotel
Free to explore Havana and lunch options on your own

Evening Visit to the iconic Tropicana Club where you will be entertained by over 200 dancers and musicians. This will also be our farewell dinner and a great way to wrap up your Cuba experience.



DAY THIRTEEN: Sunday 25th January - HAVANA (B)

Morning Breakfast at your hotel

8.30am Pack the bus and transfer to Jose Marti International Airport. Check into your flight for your return flight.



INCLUSIONS:

- ♪ Accommodation: Eleven (11) nights, Breakfasts daily and all other meals as indicated on the itinerary
- ♪ Air conditioned bus as required by the itinerary
- ♪ Airport pick up and drop off
- ♪ Sightseeing and admission as per the itinerary
- ♪ Havana International Jazz festival pass
- ♪ Tropicana club entry
- ♪ One (1) English / Spanish Speaking local tour manager with the group throughout the tour
- ♪ Taxes and tolls (where applicable)

EXCLUSIONS:

- ♪ Extra baggage charges
- ♪ Ground Transportation to/from your local airport and home
- ♪ Meals not indicated in the itinerary



- ♪ Items of a personal nature (laundry, room service, telephone fee, internet connection, mail, etc.)
- ♪ Travel Insurance.
- ♪ Passport & Cuban Visa Costs
- ♪ Tips to Tour Guides and Coach Drivers

Some restaurant recommendations in Havana

El Cocinero

A New York loft-style lounge with a rooftop terrace, El Cocinero sits in what used to be a cooking oil factory but is now a chic venue for Havana's trendy crowds. The towering chimney still evokes the building's industrial past, but the food and the atmosphere are all about modern sophistication, from the melt-in-the-mouth duck confit and blinis to the delectable seafood options on offer. After dinner, order one of the expertly prepared cocktails, sit back on the terrace and enjoy the sprawling views of the city in front of you. With the newly opened Fabrica de Arte Cubano next door, El Cocinero is the ultimate place to kick-start an unforgettable evening in Havana.

Calle 26e/ 11 y 13.Vedado, Havana, +53 78 322 355

Cafe Laurent

Take the antique elevator to Cafe Laurent on the fourth floor, where an old penthouse apartment near the historic Hotel Nacional has been converted to a stylish minimalist restaurant with a witty 1950's twist. Grab a seat among the Havana bohemia against a back wall covered with old newspapers, and take a pick among more than 30 Spanish-influenced, fusion dishes by Cuban chef Dayron Avilés Alfonso. Its specialty is seafood, from red snapper in green sauce to shrimps and paella. Take a place in the balcony, particularly in the evening, to delight in the scenic Vedado views.

Calle M # 257 penthouse e/21 y 19, 1200, +53 7 8312090.

Atelier

A Spanish-style mansion in Vedado, with two generous rooftop terraces packed with decadent cushions, and colonial furniture in the main indoor lounge provide the retro backdrop of the Atelier. In the handwritten menus, supervised by Niuris Higuera and executed by chef Enrique Edreira, you can choose between lamb



entrees, conejo al vino (rabbit in wine), duck and fresh lobster, falafels, fajitas, flan and tarts. You will be hard-pressed to find a more unpredictable list of dishes, as well as a more comfortable, sophisticated dining choice for visiting large groups.

Calle 5ta., No. 511 altos, Paseo y 2, Vedado, +537 836 2025.

Doña Eutemia

Tucked in an Old Havana alley away from the main tourist path, but busy enough to give you a taste of true Cuban street life, this homely paladar (an independently-run restaurant) is a staple of old Creole cuisine. The owner, Laetitia, refuses to let go of the culinary secrets that were passed on to her by her mother. She cooks classic Creole dishes such as malanga fritters and the ropa vieja (shredded lamb), accompanied by black beans, salad and rice, next to lots of fresh seafood and exotic fruits. With big portions at reasonable prices, it is popular haunt, so expect to eat in good company.

Callejón del Chorro No 60c, Plaza de la Catedral,+535 270 6433.