

Go With Jo! Travel Refers...

Collette's Rediscover Cuba

A Cultural Exploration

Departing October 11 – 18, 2017





Highlights...

Havana ● Revolution Museum ● Casa Fuster ●
Cuban Fine Arts Museum ● Salsa Dancing ● Finca
Vigia - Ernest Hemingway's Home ● Che Guevara
Memorial & Museum ● Cayo Santa Maria Island ●
Sugar Museum ● Remedios ● Cienfuegos ●
Botanical Gardens ● Cuban Cigars

8 Days • 16 Meals: 7 Breakfasts • 3 Lunches • 6 Dinners

BOOK NOW: Double \$4,849; Single \$5,849

Regular rates: Double \$5,049; Single \$6,049

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Miller Intlernational, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$280 per person

<u>IMPORTANT CONDITIONS</u>: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

Day 1: Havana, Cuba - Tour Begins

Your journey begins as you fly to Havana, Cuba. Transfer to the iconic Hotel Nacional. *Today dinner will be included.*

Day 2: Havana - Casa Fuster - Havana

This morning you are in for a treat when we visit a local performing arts school and meet its creative students who will showcase their talents. Visit the Revolution Museum in what was once the Presidential Palace. Gain insight into Cuban history during the 1950s revolutionary war period. Enjoy a farm-to-table lunch at a local paladar where you will meet the proprietors of this family-run, privately-owned specialty restaurant. Tour the grounds including their own organic farm. Later, **travel to Casa Fuster** for an insider's look at the work and life of Cuban artist Jose Fuster, whose artwork was inspired by Spain's famous architect, Antonio Gaudi. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included*.

Day 3: Havana - Finca Vigia - Havana

This morning, walk through the dramatic evolution of Cuban art at the Cuban Fine Arts Museum. Then spend time in Old Havana to interact with some professional Salsa dancers. Strike up a conversation with the dancers and hear about their lives and Cuba's dance culture while learning some of the basic steps of this remarkable dance. Enjoy a tour of Old Havana on foot and stop at a local market for shopping. We then make our way to Finca Vigia, or "Lookout House," Ernest Hemingway's Cuba home located in the small town of San Francisco de Paula. It is here where Hemingway wrote two of his most celebrated novels: For Whom the Bell Tolls and The Old Man and the Sea. This evening, take a trip around Havana in one of the antique American cars that the city is known for. Finally, savor dinner in one of Havana's finest restaurants. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 4: Havana - Santa Clara - Cayo Santa Maria

Your day begins with a journey to Santa Clara as you transfer to your hotel on the pristine beaches of Cayo Santa Maria, an island off of Cuba's north central coast. En route to your all-inclusive resort, stop at the Che Guevara Memorial & Museum and learn about this polarizing figure and the revolution he helped to spark. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

Day 5: Cayo Santa Maria - Remedios - Caibarién - Cayo Santa Maria Journey to the *Museo de la Sucre*, or "Sugar Museum." Learn from local producers of the rise and fall of the Cuban region on the backs of sugar cane production. Enjoy a walking tour of Remedios, a charming town considered to be the oldest Spanish settlement in the former Las Villas province. Visit San Juan Bautista de Remedios, a 17th-century Baroque church. View the beautiful gold leaf altar made of carved cedar and one of only seven known statues in the world depicting a pregnant Virgin Mary. Continue to Caibarién and drive along the road of artists, pausing along the way at the home of a local artist who uses only recycled materials. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included*.

Day 6: Cayo Santa Maria - Cienfuegos - Cayo Santa Maria

This morning, embark on a scenic drive to Cienfuegos Province Botanical Gardens, the oldest of its kind on the island. During a fascinating walking tour, learn about the garden's ties with Harvard University and its founding as a research center (where a sugar mill once stood). Enjoy lunch before exploring the historic Plaza Mayor in the heart of the city. Peruse the shops, converse with the shopkeepers and get a true taste of the local culture. Afterwards, sit back and enjoy an amazing a cappella choral performance conducted by the Cantores de Cienfuegos, a local student group gaining worldwide recognition. Visit the Tomas Terry Theatre, an impressive opera house on Plaza Mayor, before returning to Cayo Santa Maria. Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.

Day 7: Cayo Santa Maria - Santa Clara - Cayo Santa Maria

Embark on a journey to Santa Clara where we will meet local art or theatre students. Learn about Cuban art and their lives as you interact with students and teachers and discuss their techniques. **Spend time at Piquete**Melodías Antillanas, one of Cuba's last *Piquete* bands. Engage with this vibrant community and discover their passion for music, singing and dancing. Learn about how this musical genre emerged in Cuba back in the 17th century. Delight in the band's performance of original scores by renowned composers such as Miguel Faildes and Moses Simons. This special performance is conducted on original wind instruments dating back to the 1800s. Learn Cuba's national dance, *Danzón*, as the *abuelos* give you a dancing lesson. Later, learn about Cuban cigars - one of the country's

most popular products. Then we make our way to a handicraft market where you'll get to meet the local artisans and discover their unique crafts. Return to your hotel for a mojito-making demonstration, rum tasting and dinner. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 8: Santa Clara - USA - Tour Ends

Your Cuba adventure comes to a close today. Return home with vivid memories of this beautiful country and the rich personal experiences you shared with the people of Cuba. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Experience 9t!

Old Karana

Step into days gone by in vibrant Old Havana. This section of the city is bursting with a variety of color and textures and is alive with the soul of Cuba. Founded in 1519 by the Spanish, this remarkable section of Havana was the largest port in the Caribbean for centuries and has been named a UNESCO World Heritage site. It's known for its well-preserved historic architecture. Stroll along its alleyways and pass an array of buildings that include private homes, arcades, boutique hotels and government buildings all adorned with elaborate carvings, wrought-iron and colorful paint. As you explore Old Havana, discover its friendly people that fill its lively plazas. They are the heartbeat of the city and a big part of what makes it so special.

YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 – 3 Hotel Nacional de Cuba, Havana
Day 4 – 7 Iberostar Ensenachos, Caibarién, Villa Clara
On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Please Note:

Book Now rates valid until May 11, 2017, valid on air inclusive packages only.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

Due to heavy demand for this destination and our ability to provide intimate cultural interactions with the local people of Cuba, this tour will operate with a maximum of 40 passengers.

Cuba is a country that has been inaccessible to Americans for decades, and it is important to go into this experience with an open mind and make the most of every moment. The increased interest in Cuba has placed heavy demands on limited resources and infrastructure, which may result in lower standards of hotels and amenities than you are accustomed to. Temporary power outages, low water pressure or limited air conditioning are not uncommon in Cuba. It is important to remain flexible as some changes to the itinerary may be necessary while on tour due to situations beyond our control. Keep in mind, the purpose of this trip is to have meaningful interactions with the locals. Many places visited are not typical tourist destinations and thus not always accessible. If a planned people-to-people exchange isn't available, it will be replaced with another one just as enriching, and your full people-to-people experience will be preserved. It is an exciting time as your trip to Cuba is both historic as well as culturally diverse.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Triple and child accommodations are not available.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at prescheduled times.

This tour may also operate in reverse on certain dates.

All guests are required to obtain a Cuban Tourist Visa. Application for the tourist visa card is at point of exit from the United States to Cuba, provided by the airline at your own

cost of approximately \$100 USD per person. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Collette Travel Service, Inc. d/b/a Collette is offering travel services to Cuba intended to meet the "people-to-people" educational activities under the provisions promulgated under title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations section 515 as issued by the Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). Such travel is permitted by general license. The general license authorizes registered guests of our programs, under the auspices of Collette, to legally travel to Cuba, to participate and engage in a full time schedule of authorized educational exchange activities in Cuba, which will involve meaningful interaction between you and people in Cuba.

Prior to departure, Collette will provide you with a Letter of Authorization to confirm your legal travel status, the authorized travel agenda and activities, and your recordkeeping responsibilities.

Each guest is required to keep a general written record of each day's activities in Cuba as to the various sites visited and transactions or activities engaged in. Such records shall be kept and retained by each guest to be made available for examination upon demand (by OFAC) for at least five (5) years from the date of each transaction.

This is an educational program that requires full-time participation; therefore, we require participants to be at least 15 years of age.

In order to fulfill OFAC's licensing requirements on this tour, you will have a full-time schedule of educational exchange activities that will result in a meaningful interaction between the traveler, you, and individuals in Cuba. The itinerary has been designed with these requirements in mind and there will be no leisure time on this program as on other Collette tours. The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour and to better facilitate meaningful educational exchanges. Due to unforeseen circumstances and schedule changes, educational visits may be interchanged with similar activities.

To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening.

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For more information contact

Leni Caballero • leni@gowithjo.com or Jorge Zubizar • jorge@gowithjo.com • Go With Jo! Travel • 956-423-1446