Day 1. Monday, November 9. Rochester to Toronto

Leave Stone-Tolan Historic Site, 2370 East Avenue, for a leisure ride via motor coach to Hotel Carlingview, Pierson International Airport.

Day 2. Tuesday, November 10. Hello Cuba!

*Dinner included

Transfer to Pierson International Airport.

Arrival at Varadero International Airport.

Meet your Authentic Cuba Travel tour guide and bus driver.

Private transfer to Havana City.

Check-in at historic Hotel Nacional de Cuba (Executive Floor).

Evening: Welcome Dinner at the family-run restaurant paladar ‘San Cristobal’.

Attend a Fashion Week Event and/or
Head to ‘Café Madrigal’ for a drink. This private bar and restaurant is owned and run by film director Rafael Rosales and is housed in a beautiful colonial mansion with the walls lined with captivating art work. (Optional – Not included in tour cost)

**Day 3. Wednesday, November 11. Havana**

*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*

Breakfast at the hotel.

9 AM - Panoramic tour around Modern Havana in privately-owned vintage cars.

10:30 AM - Visit to the Workshop School in Old Havana

Lunch at ‘La Moneda Cubana’ private family-run restaurant.

Afternoon: Visit the Scale Model of Old Havana. Followed by guided walking tour of UNESCO World Heritage Site, Old Havana with Authentic Travel tour guide.
Followed by a guided visit to the Museum of Fine Arts Cuban Collection where we see the evolution of Cuba’s visual arts over the last 300 years.

The collection accounts for the richness of the island’s Spanish, French, Chinese, and African cultural roots.

Evening: Dinner at the Hotel Nacional Garden Restaurant.

Next we attend one of the most traditional and popular ceremonies in Cuba, The Fire of the Cannon of 9 o’clock.

Or you may want to enjoy a Fashion Week Event and/or Visit FABRICA DE ARTE – The Factory of Art (F.A.C.).

This is one of Havana’s finest new art spaces located in a converted factory in Vedado neighborhood. This is not a state-run facility but classified as a “community project”. It is the brainchild of Afro-Cuban rocker, rapper, composer and filmmaker X Alfonso who, after making a lot of money in a highly successful music career, wanted to put something back into his community.

Celebrities Mick Jagger, Michelle Obama, Lady Gaga, Sting and Katy Perry have visited here.

**Day 4. Thursday, November 12. Havana**

*Breakfast and lunch included*

Breakfast at the hotel.

Meeting with our guide for the morning, Architect Daniel de la Regata. We'll see important examples of Art-Deco style architecture such as:

Lopez Serrano Building with its strong reminiscence of American Skyscrapers.

The House of Catalina Laza, built in the 1920’s by Juan Pedro Baro.

America Building is a theatre complex designed in 1941 by architects Fernando Martinez Campos and Pascual de Rojas.
We also visit the ‘Jardines de la Tropical’, an outdoor Art Nouveau beer garden and dance hall built in 1906 by Havana’s Almendares River. The grounds were decorated with waterfalls, gazebos, a small palace in the style of the Alhambra in Granada and a huge ballroom.

Lunch at one of Havana’s most popular restaurants: ‘El Aljibe. This eatery serves the best Creole chicken in Cuba!

Afternoon: Visit to Finca Vigia, a hilltop villa 20 kilometers east of Havana, where Hemingway lived from 1939 to 1960. It is here where the writer completed some of his greatest works, including ‘The Old Man and the Sea’, ‘Across the River and into the Trees’, and ‘Islands in the Stream’.

The villa has been maintained as a museum for the past 49 years. It contains original book and short story manuscripts, letters, over 3000 photographs, Hemingway’s fishing tackle and gun collections, furniture, priceless art collection, and a 9000 volume library that contains rare first editions of his books and those of other famous writers.

Next we visit the music community project ‘Clave del Sol’ where professional musicians teach and train youngsters 7 to 16 years old on stringed instruments, primarily the guitar, and choral singing. The program was started in 2009 with only 9 students and now has over 200 kids.

We’ll exchange with the children and program directors, and will enjoy a heart-warming performance!

Evening: Dinner and show at Los Jardines de la Tropical. (Optional – Not included in tour cost)
Day 5. Friday, November 13. UNESCO Biosphere Reserve ‘Sierra del Rosario’
*Breakfast and lunch included

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning: Departure to Las Terrazas eco-community, located in UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Sierra del Rosario in the western province of Pinar del Rio.

Next we’ll meet with Dr. Fidel Hernandez, Director of the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere, and other environmental scientists and technicians responsible for the restoration of the jungles and forests of Las Terrazas. You’ll learn the principles, approaches and practices that combined serve to sustain the region. Later we’ll walk the incredible ruins of a French Coffee Plantation built in 1801 worked by African slaves; meet with local artists and craft workers in their homes and studios.

We have lunch at an open-air restaurant specializing in traditional country cuisine!

Next you’ll have free time to swim in the fresh waters of the San Juan River cascades and pools, and explore the surroundings of this lush tropical paradise. Don’t forget your swimming suit!

Return to Havana city.

Evening: Attend a Fashion Week Event and/or

Head to ‘Bar Bohemio’ for a drink. This privately-run Bohemian style bar is owned and managed by ex-ballerinas from the National Ballet Company. (Optional – Not included in tour cost)

*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning: Visit to the privately-owned photography gallery 'Amos' for a meeting with Cuban photographer Ramses Batista. Ramses is one of Cuba’s most renowned modern photographers, his career spanning more than 20 years includes portraiture, social documentary, religion, landscapes, and most recently, nudes.
Followed by visit to the headquarters of Havana Compas, a Cuban dance and percussion company fusing flamenco and Afro-Cuban rhythms. It is the first of its kind in the island.

The work of Habana Compass Dance attracts international personalities. U.S. singer Usher and the vocalist of the British band The Rolling Stones, Mick Jagger, have visited its headquarters. Exchange with students and dance instructors.

We are now entering Fusterlandia, the studio, residence and wild kingdom of José Rodriguez Fuster, one of the most important Cuban ceramists and painters today.

Lunch hosted by Jose Fuster.

Afternoon: We embark on a 1-hour visit to Havana’s Parque Central and surrounding buildings guided by Architect Pedro Vazquez Rodriguez.

Walk along Obispo Boulevard, one of the most famous and busiest streets in Old Havana.

We also visit the privately-owned Piscobis Bazar-Café where you can buy the perfect gift or souvenir while supporting a Cuban family.
Dinner at private family-run restaurant *Mediterraneo*.


**Day 7. Sunday, November 15. Havana – Cienfuegos City**  
*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning: Visit to the Partagas Cigar Factory, founded in 1845 by Spaniard Don Jaime Partagas.

Departure to Cienfuegos, in Central Cuba.

En route we visit ‘Korimakao’, a rural cultural community project involving local young artists and residents.

Founded in the 1990’s by famous Cuban actor Manuel Porto, Korimakao promotes theater, music and dance performances, as well as documentaries, books, magazines and other projects with a focus on environmentalism. We’ll exchange with project directors Yander Roche and Hilda Tamayo, and enjoy a special performance by Korimakao artists.

Lunch at the private family-run restaurant *paladar* ‘Tikki’.

Check in at Jagua Hotel in Cienfuegos.
Dinner at *paladar* ‘Finca del Mar’.

Evening: **Special Highlight** – Performance by Cánticus Novus, one of the most prestigious choral groups in Cienfuegos city. Discussion session with singers after performance.

**Day 8. Monday, November 16. Trinidad de Cuba**

*B*reakfast and lunch included

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning: Day trip to UNESCO World Heritage Site, Trinidad’s Historical Center.

Nancy Benitez, a local architect and restoration specialist, will take us on a guided walking tour around this historic city known for its cobble-stoned streets, pastel coloured homes and small-town feel.

Next we’ll visit the Museo Municipal de Historia located in the beautiful Neo Classical *Cantero palace*. In addition to antiques and 19th-century furnishings, there are bits and pieces of slave history, and exhibits of revolutionary Cuba. For many visitors, though, the highlight is to climb up the narrow wooden stairs to the tower, which has terrific bird’s-eye views of Trinidad and the surrounding area.

Private visit to the studio of local artist Yudit Vidal.
Yudit is the founder and director of the project ‘Entre hilos, alas y pinceles’ (Between threads, wings and brushstrokes) which groups 21 Trinidad craftswomen who cultivate unique and exclusive stitches. Through this project the artist has been able to help local women and their families through collaborating with them as she paints on their traditional Trinidad stitching on linen.

Yudit was appointed ‘Ambassador for Peace’ by the International Circle of Ambassadors for Peace of Switzerland and France.

Lunch at Trinidad's family-run restaurant ‘Solananda’.

Afternoon: Free time to wander the streets of Trinidad’s historical centre.

Followed by visit to the Manaca-Iznaga Hacienda. The famous Manaca-Iznaga Tower, built in 1816, is 45m high, has seven floors and 136 steps to the top.

The restored hacienda is now a restaurant with a terrace overlooking the valley. A traditional guarapera at the rear serves fresh-squeezed cane juice. Some barracones (slave quarters) still stand too.

Return to your hotel in Cienfuegos.

Dinner on your own.

Evening is free to enjoy the hotel amenities, and the lively streets of Cienfuegos. How about live Cuban popular music at Casa de la Música – a great opportunity to dance with Cubans and your tour companions. Or a performance at the Tomas Terry Theatre.

**Day 9. Tuesday, November 17. Cienfuegos – Varadero**

*Breakfast and dinner included*

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning: Check out of hotel followed by guided walking tour of UNESCO World Heritage Site, Cienfuegos Historical Center.

Visit to the Tomas Terry Theatre completed in 1895.
Transfer to Varadero.

Snack stop on route. (Not included in tour cost)

Afternoon: Upon arrival to Varadero we visit Mansion Xanadu. Built in the 1930’s this is the former residence of American millionaire and entrepreneur Irenée Du Pont.

Check in at the Melia Varadero Hotel and have a light lunch.

Dinner at the hotel.

**Day 10. Wednesday, November 18. Varadero Beach**

*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning: Visit the Varadero Ceramic Workshop and Gallery showcasing great artworks from local artists. Exchange with artists and staff.

Lunch at the hotel.

Afternoon: Visit to Varadero’s Handicraft Market. This is a unique opportunity to exchange with Cuban entrepreneurs who make their living selling arts & crafts.

Dinner at the hotel.

**Day 11. Thursday, November 19. Good Bye Cuba!**

*Breakfast included*

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer to Varadero International Airport for departure.

Flight to Pierson International Airport

Motor coach return to Stone-Tolan Historic Site.
Please contact Carolyn Haygood at chaygood@landmarksociety.org or 585.546.7028 X 11 to hold a space on the tour with a $500 non-refundable deposit on your credit card.

**Landmark members $5,550   Nonmembers $5,800**
Prices are per person based on double room occupancy. All taxes included.

Single supplement $699

**Services Included:**

- 5 nights at the **Hotel Nacional de Cuba (Executive Floor)** in Havana.
- 2 nights at **Hotel Jagua** in Cienfuegos.
- 2 nights at the **Melia Varadero Hotel** (All-inclusive) in Varadero.
- 22 Meals: 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, and 6 dinners included.
- Luxury air-conditioned coach transportation and professional driver.
- All activities, speakers, meetings and meals as described in itinerary except those noted as "optional" or "not included in cost."
- An expert Cuban English speaking guide and translator throughout the program, together with ongoing support from Authentic Cuba Travel’ staff in Cuba and Canada.
- Official Asistur Cuban health insurance coverage.

**Services Not Included:**

- Activities listed as "optional" or "not included in cost" in itinerary.
- Gratuities for Cuban tour guide, bus driver, chambermaids, restaurant staff, porters, etcetera.
- Optional travel interruption and cancellation insurance.