

CUBA 360° CRUISE

Two Perfect Weeks in Cuba



Experience Cuban culture the most authentic way possible – through its people.

On this circumnavigation cruise of Cuba, get acquainted with Cubans in their daily lives, from the beautiful Santiago de Cuba to the colonial architectural haven of Trinidad, to the colorful, cultural city of Havana, and much more. Engage with people directly in discussions about their lives and work, culture and traditions. Meet with Cuban historians, artists, musicians and naturalists and experience this diverse island through their eyes.



DATE: Mar 14 - 29, 2019*

April 14 - 28, 2019**

DURATION: *15 NIGHTS/14 Nights**

**March 14 Departure has one day Havana, two days in Cienfuegos and Trinidad*

EMBARK: Miami, Florida

DISEMBARK: Miami, Florida

SHIP: Victory I

FROM: \$5,498 per person

ALL INCLUSIVE EXPLOR CLUB – All transfers, pre-Cruise boutique hotel in South Beach, Open bar, shore excursions, WiFi and internet, crew gratuities (\$235), and port charges and fees (\$615)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Expert lecturers and group leaders
- Multi-day calls & overnights
- Visit Finca Vigía, Hemmingway's home
- 5 UNESCO sites
- Inclusive – open bar, shore excursions

ITINERARY – April 14 Departure

DAY 1 – ARRIVE MIAMI

Arrive Miami. Your private transfer will take you to your included South Beach Boutique hotel for your overnight.

DAY 2 – EMBARK CUBA CRUISE IN MIAMI

This afternoon guests will transfer to the pier to embark on the Victory I for an iconic roundtrip journey from Miami to Cuba, and return. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Reception as well a highly informative talk of the journey that unfolds in front of us.

DAY 3 – KEY WEST, FLORIDA

Key West is one of the many small islands located between Miami and Havana, Cuba. It is the southernmost point of the United States, and offers a unique combination of serene vistas, energetic nightlife, and relaxed hospitality.

DAYS 4-5 – HAVANA

Cuba's colorful capital is probably best known for the Spanish-influenced architecture of Old Havana. But its historic castles, fortresses, cathedrals, mansions and public buildings vie for attention with the city's lively music and entertainment scene, an eclectic and sophis-



ticated mix of museums, art galleries, music, dance, and open-air festivals that take full advantage of the island's sunny Caribbean climate. In Old Havana, enjoy a presentation by a local architect involved with the government-funded restoration project of old Havana; learn about the work being done and discuss the chal-



lenges and the vision for Havana's future. Next, discover the historic "plazas" in Old Havana on foot and meet with members of a graphic arts cooperative and discuss what they do. You will have plenty of time to explore Old Havana on your own and later experience Havana's first English bookstore and engage in discussions with the locals.

The second day in Havana, the presentation focuses on the role of religion in the Cuban Identity. Drive to the outskirts of Havana to Finca La Vigia, the Hemingway Farm. This beautiful property hosts the house where the Nobel Prize-winning author lived with his third wife Mary for over 30 years. Look into the open windows and doors to see the home in perfect condition with Hemingway's personal belongings as he left them. Walk the grounds to see his private writing studio, swimming pool, and beloved fishing boat, Pilar. The boat is featured in his novel "Islands in the Stream." Afterwards, enjoy a light lunch in a Paladar, (a family owned restaurant with homemade Cuban food).

In the afternoon, explore Colon Cemetery with a local expert and learn the stories of the monumental architecture and of the famous Havana personalities who are buried there. Afterwards, meet up with a self-taught silversmith who trains young Cuban adults searching for a career in the private sector.

DAYS 6-7 – AT SEA

DAY 8 – CIENFUEGOS, CUBA

The coastal city of Cienfuegos, the center of Cuba's sugar, tobacco, and coffee trades, is known to Cubans as the Pearl of the South. It's the only city in Cuba to be founded by French settlers. In 2005, the historic center was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Near the entrance to the city's spectacular natural bay stands the

great stone fortress of Castillo de Jagua, built in 1745 to protect the city against pirate attacks. Among buildings of particular interest are the Government Palace (City Hall), San Lorenzo School, the Bishopric, the Ferrer Palace, the former lyceum, and some residential houses. Cienfuegos is an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble representing the new ideas of modernity, hygiene and order in urban planning as developed in Latin America from the 19th century. As we walk



through the main square, visiting the Graphic arts workshop where there will be discussions and interchanges with local artists. Visit a Cuban peso store, a ration shop and a CUC supermarket to better understand the workings of a two currency country. Lunch in a local restaurant, with an opportunity to try some salsa steps. After lunch, enjoy a performance and exchange with one of the talented musical groups in Cienfuegos.

DAY 9 – TRINIDAD, CUBA

A meticulously well preserved Spanish colonial city, with its rich architecture, cobblestone streets, palaces and plazas, Trinidad is sometimes referred to as the “museum city of Cuba”. Walk through the town with a representative of the Office of the City Historian, interacting with artisans and visiting with locals. At the Romantic Museum, we envision life in the 18th century through



its furniture and decorative arts. Enjoy lunch in a Paladar, (a family owned restaurant with homemade Cuban food). In the afternoon, there is time to explore on your own.

DAY 10 – AT SEA

DAYS 11-12 – SANTIAGO DE CUBA

During these 2 days in Santiago de Cuba, we'll explore the Castillo de San Pedro de la Roca — better known as El Morro — inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as "the most complete, best-preserved example of Spanish-American military architecture, based on Italian and Renaissance design principles." This multi-level stone fortress built into the rocky promontory of El Morro has guarded the entrance to Santiago de Cuba Bay since 1638.



We will visit the cemetery to see some of the most beautiful burial crypts built in Cuba and to learn about Jose Marti, the Cuban National Hero. We end our discovery witnessing the changing of the guard at the tomb of Jose Marti. We end the morning at the Diego Velázquez House and Museum, said to be the oldest standing house in Cuba, the Spanish colonial structure is an excellent example of how Spaniards built and lived in Cuba. Have a light lunch at a Paladar. In the afternoon, there's plenty of free time to explore Old Santiago. There will be an expert presentation on the Culture and Religions of Oriente (Eastern Cuba).

DAYS 13-14 - AT SEA

DAY 15 – DISEMBARK MIAMI

Arrive in Miami. After breakfast on board, disembark to your private transfer to the airport for your flight homebound.



VICTORY I - GUESTS: 202

Rates include –All Cuba shore excursions, Free WiFi and internet, Open bar - beer, wine and spirits.

BOOK with EXPLOR CRUISES by September 30, 2018 and receive EXCLUSIVE EXPLOR CLUB BENEFITS – Save \$2,000 per person - INCLUDING Port & Cuba Visa and Medical Fees and Charges (\$615), Gratuities to crew (\$235), all private transfers, airport to hotel, hotel to ship, and ship back to airport and Pre-Cruise Miami South Beach hotel. Rates shown are after \$2,000 Savings.



Reservations and Information:
 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)
 Email - info@explorcruises.com

RATES 2019	Cat E	Cat D	Cat C	Cat B	Cat A	Cat AA	Owner Suite
Special Rate Feb 14, 2019	\$5,498	\$7,498	\$8,398	\$8,998	\$9,498	\$9,998	\$11,498
Special Rate Mar 14, 2019	\$6,498	\$8,498	\$9,398	\$9,998	\$10,498	\$10,998	\$12,498

