

# FLY Cuba! BY

*Su*  
COMIDA CRIOLLA  
Y SUS TRAGOS EN  
**LA BODEGUITA  
DEL MEDIO**  
BEIRUT  
LEBANON

**M** MIDDLE SIDE  
Travel & Tourism

*Your Travel Partner!*





# Contentts

- History of la Bodeguita del Medio
- About the country...
- Where to go, famous destinations!
- Travel Packages!
- Mojito recipe!

No hay razón para alarmarse  
**JORGE PASQUEL**  
Por ELADIO SECADES

A LUDEN... (text continues)

PAGINA DIECISIETE

DIARIO DE LA MARINA - SABADO, 22 DE FEBRERO DE 1947

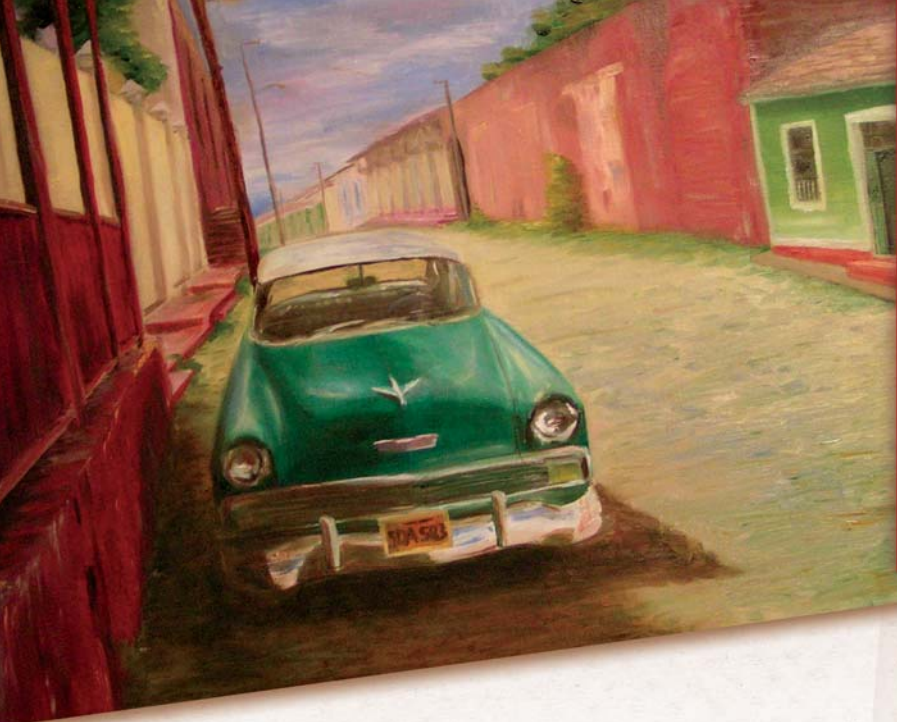
## CONSUEGRA LANZARA ESTA TARDE VS. EL ALMENDARES

Greenberg se ha puesto de acuerdo con los propietarios del "Pittsburgh"



Inauguran hoy el volibol colegial

JANRO DERROTO POR K O TECNICO A BEAU JACK



# History of la Bodeguita

## EXPERIENCE

Cuddled up within the heart of lively Beirut, La Bodeguita del Medio emulates 1942's style of the Legendary La Bodeguita del Medio Havana, creating the perfect blend of glamour and decadence from a by-gone era.

With its Cuban style decoration, luxurious Cigar Lounges and an abundance of old Havana, this Latin-inspired venue combines an iconic, vibrant restaurant with the infamous La Bodeguita del Medio bar restaurant boasting the most impressive selection of rums in Lebanon.

Whether you are tasting the best authentic Cuban recipes or drinking our most famous cocktails, La Bodeguita del Medio Beirut offers a truly authentic Cuban experience while listening to the rhythms of our live Cuban band.

## HISTORY

Each place in the world has something to pride itself on, which sets it apart from everywhere else. The Cuban metropolis Havana is certainly no exception to this rule. That said, you will be hard pushed to find any other venue in the city boasting such a long and rich history and with so many famous guests on its books as La Bodeguita del Medio on central Empedrado Street which truly unites the colonial past with contemporary life.

For some reason unknown to us, it is said that the Bodeguita stands at a distance of one hundred paving stones from the largest American Baroque building in Cuba, which if tested, unarguably proves to be Havana cathedral. In 1950, La Bodeguita del Medio restaurant (which in Spanish means pub in the middle of the street) first opened its doors at number 27, Empedrado Street. To most of us, this choice of location might appear quite logical, however in fact the preferred "strategic point" for restaurants and bars is that of a street corner.

As you enter the Bodeguita (in Havana) for the first time, your olfactory senses will revel in the delightful aroma of Cuban mint, while sampling the special herbs apparently does wonders to your digestive system. Thus, these inseparable ingredients became the rudiments of the famous drink we now know as MOJITO, whose current form and taste were developed right here in La Bodeguita. At the back of the Havana Bodeguita restaurant, guests have the chance to sample excellent Cuban cuisine, while at the same time sit back and take in the sounds of traditional melodies sung by Cuban trios.

In 1942 Angel Martinez Borroto finally gave in to the powers of his entrepreneurial intuition and bought a small shop in the still fortified historical part of the city. Soon after embarking on this business venture, he set about managing and developing his small enterprise, going by the name La Casa Martinez. Shortly afterwards, Felito Ayon, a man of similar character to Martinez, set up his own printing shop nearby. For some time, the establishment had no telephone line and so, customers would occasionally wander over to the Bodeguita to settle business over a glass or two of rum.

Among the most prominent regulars to frequent the Bodeguita at the time, were the classic Cuban poet Nikolas Guillen and the notable prose writer Alejo Carpentier. Gradually La Bodeguita established an impressive clientele base proving a popular choice for intellectuals, artists and simple Bohemians alike. Indeed, over time, the Bodeguita became a forum for progressive thinking for intellectuals (arriving from Latin America as well as the wider world) to meet and discuss. During the first stages of its operation, visitors' indulgent behaviour was confined to the bar. Some time later, however, the guests (usually friends of Martinez) could also sit down to eat. Initially meals were only available to family members and the sparse waiting staff, prepared by Martinez's wife, nicknamed "Armenian girl" (presumably for her dark skin tone). At this time, the main ingredients comprised a combination of black beans and white rice, or as it was more often referred to: Maoris and Christians, or simply "CONGRI". To finish off, guests were served pieces of baked pork, called "Masas de puerco fritas" and either fried banana chips or small banana pancakes, referred to by the locals as "Tostans de platano."

Martinez was clearly devoted to satisfying the requests of his most trusted customers and subsequently began serving food, despite the fact that people only paid for the drinks. In 1950, the title of Martinez's enterprise was changed indefinitely from La Casa Martinez to the name that regulars had been using for some time: La Bodeguita.

This same decade also saw the arrival of a new wave of clientele coming from all over the world, including the likes of the American singer, Nat King Cole, Nobel prize winner for literature, Ernest Hemingway, the idols of female beauty, Brigitte Bardot and Sophia Loren, the American actor, Spencer Tracy, not to mention Errol Flynn, Austin Lara or Mario Moreno. Together with their Cuban intellectual counterparts, these names have attracted a constantly growing number of dedicated visitors. Today La Bodeguita del Medio serves as an unfading reminder to its Bohemian past where guests, whether intellectuals, politicians or passers-by continue to meet and while away the time. As to the colonial building of the Bodeguita, dating back to the end of the 19th century, many visitors believe that the collection of invaluable signatures, memories and photographs preserved on the stonewalls deserve to feature in the Guinness book of records.

## CUISINE

The La Bodeguita del Medio dining menu, developed by our Cuban Executive Chef, is a mouth-watering interpretation of cosmopolitan Cuban and Latin American cooking. At La Bodeguita del Medio you can enjoy a diverse selection of authentic Cuban dishes including the Rollo de Filete or our ESPECIALIDAD DE LA CASA the "PLATO HEMINGWAY".

## THE COCKTAILS

With the inspiration and creativity of Beirut's most respected and experienced mixologists, La Bodeguita del Medio Beirut's drinks menu is an experience in itself. The menu features traditional cocktails from the early 1950's menu, as well as more contemporary creations as the "Pineapple and sage mojito". Upon entering the bar, you can notice one of the largest collections of rum in the world. Lined up on the bar are glasses filled with mint and sugar soon to be transformed into mojitos... La Bodeguita's most popular cocktail, immortalized by Ernest Hemingway. Our Cuban bartender will guide you through the Art and origins of our Cuban drinks, serving our most popular and traditional cocktails, the Mojito and the Daiquiri.

## CIGARS

La Bodeguita del Medio offers a supreme range of Cuba's world-renowned cigars. Our Hemingway & Capitol Cigar Lounges are the perfect retreat where anyone can enjoy our finest cigar from the walk-in humidor along with a cocktail or a glass of aged rum.

## HISTORY OF MOJITO

At the beginning of the 18th Century, people began talking about nectar fermentation, which according to the chronicle, in some way explains the strange conduct and behavior of people; just like firewater that followed. At this time, father Jean-Batiste Labat, a great traveler and the inventor of vinegar distillation, observed how savages of the black race refined a strong, cheap and sharp drink made from the juice of sugar cane. They called it Tafia: a strong, coarse and inexpensive liquor which offered people a chance to escape the harsh reality of everyday life in stark contrast to their age-old rituals.

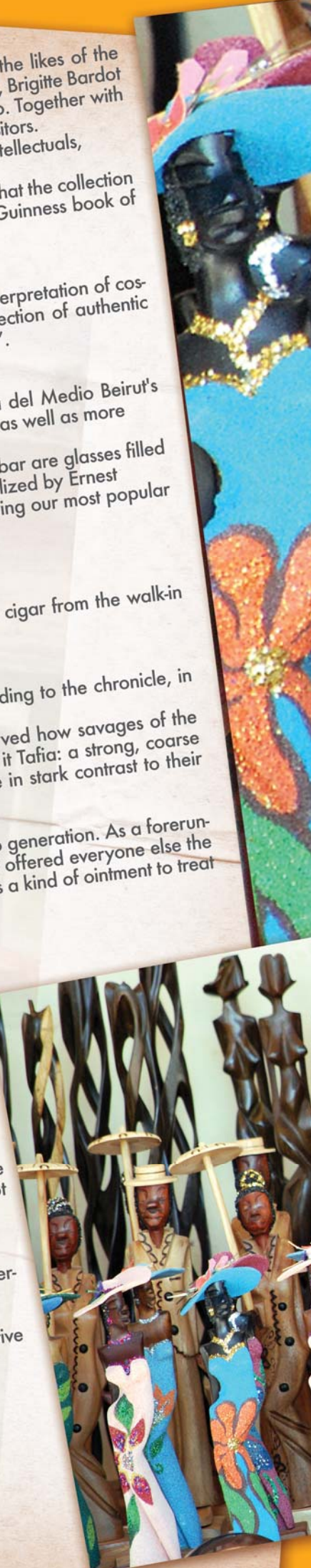
According to the journalist G. Campoamor this "legacy" had been passed down from generation to generation. As a forerunner to rum (a drink made from sugar cane), it gave warriors the courage required in battle, while it offered everyone else the stamina of a horse to perform during regular bacchanalia and orgies. The drink also doubled up as a kind of ointment to treat wounds and soothe headaches.

As regards expansion, Hawkins, David Morgen and Drake, who transported the spirit across the Antillean Sea, were largely responsible for its arrival in Europe. According to research, carried out by the historian Fernand G. Campoamor, as an accompaniment to his adventures, Drake would always carry some spirit and lemonmedicine to fight off scurvy. From this combination, he managed to muster up a winning cocktail recipe, well suited to the mixed hot Cuban climate and ideal for many a celebration and fiesta - as such it remained a great favorite until the end of the 19th century. If we are to believe the historians, English sailors used to drink a shocking mix of different types of rum, wine and liquor, which they referred to as Dracs (pronounced Drakes to mimic the accent of an English sailor) in memory of Francis Drake.

This of course all came before the famous mojito, by which time rum had gradually started to replace the spirit. From 1910, the explorer, Miguel Boneras begins to talk of the mixed mojito, although it does not feature in the book of cocktail recipes published in 1927. Alas, the drink made its triumphant debut in La Bodeguita del Medio.

"I brought the mojito to Bodeguita" says Angel Martinez, "going on to gain ever more respect and international acclaim."

As to the origin of the name mojito, this remains unclear. Many would say it emerged from a collective source of human wisdom while it may also be traced back to the Cuban tradition of cooling drinks in water.





# About the country

Cuba is more than just the largest island in the Antilles. It is an intricate archipelago comprising the main island (about two-thirds the size of Florida), the Isle of Youth and about 4,195 keys (cayos) and islets. The country sits at the mouth of the Gulf of Mexico. The combined surface area of these Caribbean land masses is some 110,992 square kilometers and 140 kilometers from the Bahamas Islands, 146 kilometers from Jamaica, 180 kilometers from Florida, and 210 kilometers from Cancun.

## Population

Cuba has more than 11,200,000 people, with 75 per cent of them living in urban areas. The average density is 100.3 residents per square kilometer, with the most heavily populated spots being the cities of Havana (2,198,000), Santiago de Cuba (1,023,000) and Holguín (1,021,000).

## Political & Administrative Division

The Republic of Cuba is divided into 14 provinces, 169 municipalities, and the special municipality of the Isle of Youth. From west to east, the provinces are: Pinar Del Río, Havana, City of Havana, Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Villa Clara, Sancti Spiritus, Ciego de Ávila, Camagüey, Las Tunas, Holguín, Granma, Santiago de Cuba, and Guantánamo.

## Official Language

The country's official language is Spanish, although most Cubans working in the tourism industry can communicate in English.

## Climate

Cuba's climate is moderately subtropical and predominantly warm. The island's average temperature is 25.5°C and average relative humidity is 7%. It also sees an average of 330 days of sunshine a year. Cuba's two clearly defined seasons are the rainy season (May to October) and the dry season (November to April).

Peak times for travelers are Christmas, Easter, July and August. Overbooking and price hikes are the disadvantages at these times, especially during July and August, when it's also unpleasantly hot throughout much of the country. The ideal time to visit is January to May, when it's warm but not crowded and there's no threat of hurricanes (which can be a problem on the coasts from June to November). Festivals happen all year round.

## Anthem

The words and music of the National Anthem of Cuba were written by patriot Pedro (Perucho) Figueredo of Bayamo. It was sung as a patriotic song and war cry for the first time on October 20, 1868, in the township of Bayamo, in eastern Cuba, and was later adopted as Cuba's National Anthem.

To combat, people of Bayamo  
The country is proud of you  
Do not fear a glorious death  
Because to die for the country is to live

To live in chain  
Is to live in disgrace and ignominy  
Listen to the call to arms,  
Go, brave ones.

## Historical Summary

On October 27, 1492, Christopher Columbus discovered the Cuban archipelago during his initial voyage to the New World. Between 1511 and 1515, Diego Velázquez led the Spanish colonization of the island and founded the country's first seven townships: Baracoa, Bayamo, Santiago de Cuba, Santísima Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus, Santa María del Puerto del Príncipe (Camagüey) and San Cristóbal de La Habana (Havana). Spanish domination lasted four centuries and ended with the country's military occupation by the United States in 1898, which continued until 1902 when a neocolonial republic was established. The island's history has been marked by repeated struggles for independence. The first was on October 10, 1868; the last began on July 26, 1953 with the attack on the Moncada Garrison led by Fidel Castro. This revolution culminated in the establishment of the current republic on January 1, 1959.

## Other national emblems are:

**Flower:** The Butterfly Jasmine, a white jasmine with an exquisite scent

**Bird:** The Trogon (tocororo in Spanish), an endemic species whose plumage is the colors of the Cuban flag.

**Tree:** Royal Palm, seen on the national shield and a familiar element of the Cuban landscape

## National holidays:

**January 1:** Liberation Day. Anniversary of the Triumph of the Revolution

**May 1:** International Workers' Day

**July 25, 26 and 27:** Festivities for the Day of National Rebellion

**October 10:** Anniversary of the beginning of the Independence Wars

**December 25:** Christmas Day

## Sports

Every year, Cuba hosts numerous international sports events. A world sports power, the country is known for Boxing, Baseball, and Volleyball; and boasts stars in Track and Field, Fencing, Judo, Greco-Roman and Freestyle Wrestling, Chess, and Weightlifting.

## Religion

The country's Constitution guarantees total freedom of religion. The most commonly practiced religion is Catholicism, although Afro-Cuban religions are deep-rooted.





# About the country

### Health care

Cuba's primary health care system is considered unique in Latin America. Medical services are provided free of charge to all Cubans. There is an extensive networks of medical centers (442 polyclinics and 281 hospitals), as well as other specialized centers. The infant mortality rate is 7.2 per 1000 live births and the life expectancy is 75 years. Cuba is among six countries in the world that produce interferon. Its vaccines against meningitis B and C and hepatitis B are unique in the world. These achievements are possible thanks to the existence of 211 scientific research and production institutes

### Culture

Cuba has produced major international figures in literature, fine arts, film, ballet, modern dance, and theatre. The country is also renowned for its original rhythms such as the Danzón, Son, Bolero, Mambo, Cha-Cha-Cha and more. Cuba's prestigious cultural events attract international celebrities in dance, music, theatre, and other arts. Among these events are the Casa de las Américas literary contest, the Havana International Ballet Festival, the Festival of New Latin American Cinema, and the International Jazz Festival.

## Weather averages

Air temperature (°C)  
Water temperature (°C)  
Hours of sunlight  
Rainfall (mm)  
Rainy days  
% relative humidity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Air temperature (°C)	23.1	22.9	24.1	25.1	27.1	27.6	28.4	28.1	27.6	27.7	24.6	23.5
Water temperature (°C)	24.6	24.3	24.6	25.3	26.2	27.3	28.0	28.5	28.3	27.5	26.3	25.2
Hours of sunlight	11.0	11.4	12.0	12.6	13.2	13.5	13.3	13.0	12.4	11.8	11.2	10.9
Rainfall (mm)	45	38	47	72	177	216	139	158	184	190	79	41
Rainy days	79	77	76	74	78	81	79	80	82	83	81	80
% relative humidity												

# Cuba

**Visa**  
All visitors require a tourist card which is usually issued with the plane ticket or can be bought at airports.

**Money**  
Cuban convertible Peso (CUC\$) and Cuban Peso (CUP; also known as Moneda Nacional, MN);  
CUC\$1 = US\$1.08 = 0.82 Euro = UK £0.76

**Official Name:** Republic of Cuba

**Departure Tax :** CUC\$25 (cash only)  
**Area :** 110,992 sq km  
**Population :** 11.3 million

**Famous for:** Cigars, Rum, Salsa, Classic / Collection Cars  
**Country code:** 53  
**Capital :** Havana  
**Phrase:** Qué bolá asere? (What's up, brother?);chao/chaocito (goodbye/bye)  
**Number of cell phones:** 198,000





# Where to GO!

## Pinar del Rio

If you've ever wondered where the world's finest cigars start out, it's in the lovingly cultivated tobacco plantations of Cuba's Pinar del Rio province. But those plantations are only part of the area's magic.

## Havana

The exotic capital of Cuba and largest city in the Caribbean is a must-see for any visitor. For centuries, it has served as the gateway to the Gulf of Mexico, and in 1982, Old Havana, the city's Historical Center, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site.

## Varadero

Varadero Beach—some call it the world's greatest beach—has long been the pride of Cuba, and a magnet for the rich and famous. Today, a broad range of hotels and resorts on this wide, sandy beach offer affordable vacations to please any pocketbook.

## Península de Zapata

On the south side of the territory, the Great Natural Park of Montemar, located in the Ciénaga de Zapata Reserve of the Biosphere, is particularly attractive for those who prefer to enjoy the multiple specialties of nature tourism; though there are here many spaces of interest for those who rather go open sea diving or speleodiving in sunken caves.

## Cayo Largo del Sur

On the Caribbean side of Cuba lie two idyllic islands—the Isle of Youth and Cayo Largo de Sur—with sugar-white beaches and unparalleled dive sites.

## Cienfuegos

On Cuba's Caribbean side, Cienfuegos perches on the shores of Jagua Bay like a pearl sitting on an oyster shell. First settled by the French, who dubbed Cienfuegos "The Southern Pearl", the city is the capital of Cienfuegos Province.

## Villa Clara

The city of Santa Clara is best known as the place where the dictator Batista surrendered to Che Guevara in 1958. The province of Villa Clara is also noted for its production of sugar, coffee, and tobacco. A recently built causeway linking the mainland to the offshore islets has helped open the beach areas to tourism.



## Trinidad de Cuba

Almost half a millennium of history has left its indelible stamp on Central Cuba's two major centers, founded in 1514 by the Spanish Conquistadors. Today, Sancti Spiritus is a flourishing town bustling with trade in sugar, tobacco, and cattle. Trinidad is a city frozen in time—whose ancient palaces and colonial architecture remain unchanged.

## Jardines del Rey

Jardines Del Rey (King's Gardens) is the historic name (it dates back from the 16th century) given to the islet-beaches located to the north of the Province and Cuba. Cayo Coco Paradise, one of those islets mostly covered by a natural forest has a 22-km wonderful sandy strip by the seashore. A tourist village along the beach has already entered into operation.

## Santa Lucia

This dazzling white-sand beach with its clear turquoise water is Camaguey's offshore resort treasure. In Camaguey Province, cane fields dot the prairie, but it is largely covered by green pastures, where cattle graze and cowboys (vaqueros) ride.

## Holguin

This rugged mountainous region was pronounced "the most beautiful land my eyes have ever seen" by Christopher Columbus when he first sighted it in 1492. But Holguin's beauty extends beyond the hills and exquisite beaches; under water are amazing dive sites and below ground are the world's second-largest deposits of nickel and cobalt.

## Granma

Granma Province was named after the Yacht Granma, used by Che Guevara and Fidel Castro to land in Cuba with 82 guerrillas in 1956. The American who sold them the second-hand yacht in Mexico apparently had named it after his grandmother. With this non-standard spelling, Granma became an icon for Cuban Communism.

The province is full of reminders of the Cuban Revolution and the Cuban Wars of Independence with plaques in the mountain commemorating the 1959 struggle against Fulgencio Batista. Also unmarked, although there are archaeological "digs", one can find the sites of the various Palenques, the fortified hamlets held of escaped slaves. Recently a hurricane destroyed the site of Castro's headquarters at La Plata. There are numerous abandoned gold, silver, and manganese mine sites.

## Santiago de Cuba

Cuba's second largest city, Santiago de Cuba, is the most "Caribbean" of the island's cities, greatly influenced by immigration and trade from other Caribbean islands. It is proud of its revolutionary heroes, beautiful squares, and vibrant musical tradition—and it is known particularly for its Carnival.

## Baracoa

Abundant tropical forests in the northern part of Cuba's "far east" are surrounded by imposing mountains where coffee and cocoa grow. The southern strip of Guantánamo Province along the Caribbean is semi-arid desert. And on the farthest tip is the US military base at Guantánamo Bay.





# About Middle Side Travel and Tourism

### MIDDLE SIDE TRAVEL & TOURISM

was founded in 2002 and is one of the leading Tour operators in Lebanon providing prime travel services for both the corporate and leisure markets. It is also a member of the Association of Travel & Tourist Agents in Lebanon. Middle Side Travel & Tourism operates on the inbound and outbound levels providing a wide array of personalized and innovative travel solutions including:

- Airline Booking • Hotel Reservations • Cruises • Limousine Service • Travel Insurance • Yacht Rental • Car Rental • Express Mailing.

### A "Travel Partnership" Objective:

Our main objective is to build long term Travel Partnerships with our clients through a commitment to service excellence. To achieve this objective we respect four main criteria: • Customer Service • Integrity • Teamwork • Efficiency

### Destinations for Everyone:

We understand our clients' needs and constantly thrive to exceed their expectations. Our team of travel experts has developed a series of global travel packages and tours that cater to every need and within every budget from Economy to Luxury Travel and from Relaxing Vacations to Extreme Adventures.

### Business & Corporate Travel:

We also cater to Corporate and Business travelers. With our advanced fare search capabilities, our business clients are empowered to make smart choices based on their individual preferences and within their corporate travel policy while at the same time boosting efficiency, freeing up time, and improving traveler morale.

### Destination Lebanon:

Another main objective for Middle Side Travel & Tourism is promoting Lebanon as a safe touristic destination that tourists from all over the globe would enjoy visiting for shopping, sightseeing, gastronomy, culture, adventure, ski, nightlife, gambling, beaches, and much more. For this reason, we have shaped successful partnerships with leading Tour Operators in many countries including China where we succeeded in communicating Lebanon as a prime destination for the Chinese Tourists.

### Destination Lebanon:

FlyCuba is a travel concept developed by Middle Side Travel & Tourism whereby travelers to Cuba would find relevant information about this country in addition to the possibility to select and book tailor made packages to major Cuban cities. Moreover, it promotes Cuba as a leisure destination for tourists with an admiration for history, culture, adventure, beach activities, or simply cigars and relaxation.

## Other destinations

Spain

France

Italy

Portugal

Cyprus

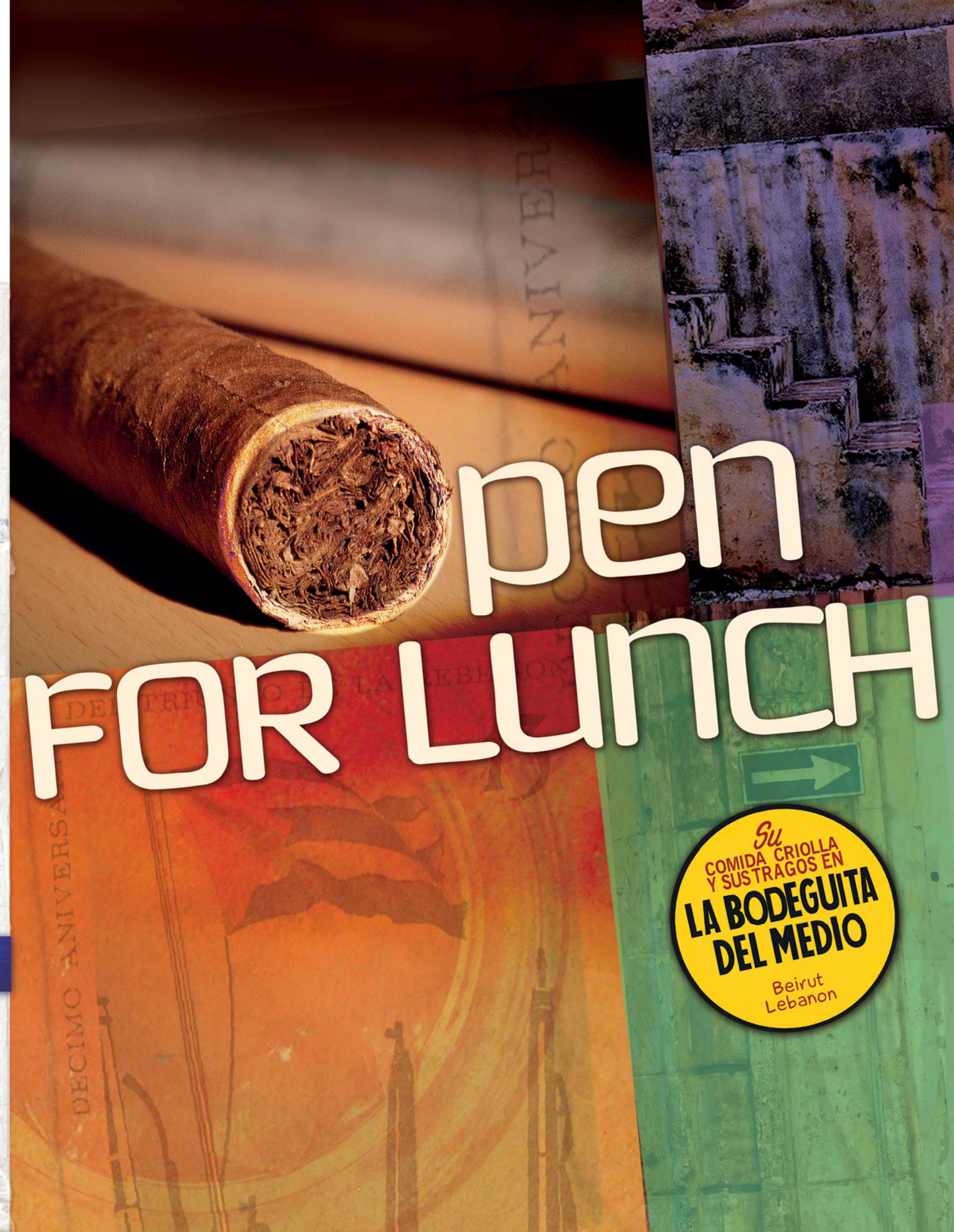
Vietnam

Turkey

Greece

Czech republic

Russia



# open FOR LUNCH

Su  
COMIDA CRIOLLA  
Y SUSTRAGOS EN  
**LA BODEGUITA  
DEL MEDIO**  
Beirut  
Lebanon

# Cuba Packages Taste of coffee

## 10 Days

Havana/ Vinales/ Cienfuegos/  
Trinidad/ Topes de Collantes/  
Remedios/ Cayo Santa Maria/  
Santa Clara

### Departure: Mondays

Itinerary: 3 nights in Havana, 1 night in Cienfuegos,  
2 nights in Topes de Collantes, 1 night in Trinidad and  
3 nights in Cayo Santa Maria.

### Day 1: Sunday

Accommodation and dinner arranged in a selected hotel

### Day 2: Monday

#### Havana

Breakfast in the hotel. Pick-up at the hotel. Visit to the Partagas Cigarrs Factory.

Tour of Old Havana City Historic Center, Cultural Heritage of Mankind; Plaza de Armas; St Francisco de Assis Square and its beautiful fountain of the lions, Palacio de los capitanes generales Where you will discover the great pages of Cuban History, Mercaderes Street; Ambos Mundos Hotel where renowned American writer Ernest Hemingway lived; the Cathedral Square; the famous bar-restaurant La Bodeguita del Medio; and the House of Rum to become acquainted with Havana Club rum manufacturing process and taste it. Lunch at local restaurant.

Tour, by bus, of thr Museum of thr Revolution, the Central Park, Havana's Grand Theatre and National Capitol.

The tour continues along **Modern Havana:** Revolution Square and the " Jose Marti" Memorial. Panoramic tour by the University campus. Back to the hotel and dinner. **Night free.**

### Day 3: Tuesday

#### Havana/ Vinales/ Havana

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer by an air-conditioned bus to Vinales Valley in Pinar del Rio, Cuba's most western province where the world's best tobacco is grown. Exotic landscape with valleys crowded with royal palms, the national tree.

In-transit visit to a cigar factory in Candelaria. On the way to Vinales a visit to "El Paraiso" farm, where you will learn about the lifestyle of local peasants as well as about the growing of tobacco. In Vinales, visit to the pre-historic Mural (cave painting on the country's most ancient rocks) and the Indian Cave, boating along its underground river. Lunch at local restaurant. Stop at Los Jazmines lookout to admire the Vinales Valley. Return to hotel and dinner. Back to the hotel. **Night free.**

### Day 4: Wednesday

#### Havana/Cienfuegos

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Cienfuegos. In-transit visit to " Fiesta Campesina", first contact with the endemic flora and fauna of Zapata Peninsula.

Departure for Cienfuegos. Tour of Cienfuegos' main streets and avenues Lunch in local restaurant. Founded by the French, Cienfuegos is located at a wonderful bay guarded by Castillo de (Jagua Castle) where you can find the largest coral site ever discovered in Cuba that was christened Notre Dame. Visits to: the Marti Park, the Palacio del Valle, the Tomas Terry Theatre, the House of Cultural Assets, and the Purisima Conception Cathedral Accommodation and dinner in selected hotel. **Night free.**

### Day 5: Thursday

#### Cienfuegos/ Trinidad/ Topes de Collantes.

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Trinidad and Panoramic tour of the city, one of the first villages founded by the Spaniards at the beginnings of the 16th century.

It was declared by UNESCO Cultural Heritage of Mankind. Visit to the Main Parochial Church of the Holy Trinity housing a luxurious altar decorated with local precious stones, and images 300 years old; plaza Mayor, and Count Brunet Palace---at present, a Romantic Museum. Visit to La Canchanchara bar to enjoy a cocktail of the same name. Lunch at local restaurant. Departure for Topes de Collantes. Accommodation at Los helechos. Dinner.Night free.

### Day 6: Friday

#### Topes de Collantes/ Excursion to Guanayara

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Guanayara National Park, 15 km from Trinidad. Enjoy the wide variety of flora y fauna, natural pools, and the beautiful El Rocío falls, creole lunch at casa La Gallega Restaurant. Upon return you will visit a coffee plantation. Return to the hotel and dinner at Mi Retiro restaurant.

### Day 7: Saturday

#### Trinidad

Katamaran Seafari to Cayo Blanco.

Breakfast in the hotel and check out. Departure for a katamaran seafari to Cayo Blanco, in Trinidad with the possibility of snorkeling (equipments included) in the coral reef. Lunch included with open bar. Accommodation in Trinidad selected hotel and night free.

### Day 8: Sunday

#### Torre Manaca Iznaga/ Santa Clara/ Caibarien/ Cayo Santa Maria.

Breakfast in the hotel and check out. Departure for Cayo Santa Maria, In-transit visit to Manaca Iznaga's Plantation, the tours continues to Villa Clara and Visit to Che Museum, Lunch at Los Can-eyes restaurant, continue and visited Remedios Village and continue to Cayo Santa Maria, and Accommodation in selected hotel and free night.

### Day 9: Monday

#### Cayo Santa Maria.

Accommodation in ALL INCLUSIVE hotel. Day FREE

### Day 10: Tuesday

#### Cayo Santa Maria.

Accommodation in ALL INCLUSIVE hotel. Day FREE

### Day 11: Wednesday

#### Cayo Santa Maria/ Santa Clara/ Havana

Breakfast in the hotel, check out. Departure for Havana city, and an in-transit visit to Marcelo Salado sugar factory and the steam-locomotive museum.

Continue to Airport Jose Marti for international flight. End of services.

## La Habana

Combination A: NH Prague Central

Combination B : Ambos Mundos

Combination C : Armadores Santander

## Cienfuegos

Combination A, B, C : Jagua

## Topes Collantes

Combination A, B,C :Los Helechos

## Trinidad

Combination A : Trinidad Del Mar

Combination B: Ancon

Combination C: Costa Sur

## Cayo Santa Maria

Combination A, B, C : Sol Club Cayo Santa Maria



## 8 Days

La Habana / Vinales / Varadero

### Day 1

- Arrival to Havana, Check in and Dinner at hotel.
- **Free night out.**

### Day 2

- Breakfast at the hotel and pick up for a City Tour
- Visit to the Morro-Cabana Park
- Walking Tour in Old Havana: Cathedral Square, Bar-Restaurant La Bodeguita Del Medio, Plaza de Armas, Oficios Street, San Francisco de Asis Square
- Visit the Rum Museum and taste the Havana Club Rum.
- Walking Tour to The Plaza Vieja (Old Square) and visit the Ambos Mundos Hotel.
- Lunch at local restaurant
- Panoramic tour of the Central Park, Gran Teatro de la Habana, The National Capitol, The Malecon (Havana Seawall), The Revolution Square, The Havana University Campus.
- Return to hotel and dinner
- **Free night out.**

### Day 3

- Breakfast at the hotel;
- Departure in air-conditioned bus to Vinales Valley in Pinar del Rio;
- Visit to a cigars Factory in Candelaria Town
- A stop at the Belvedere in Los Jazmines - Visit to Finca El Paraiso - Sightseeing of Los Vinales Valley
- Visit the Prehistory Mural and boat tour of the Indian Cave and its underground river
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Return to hotel and dinner
- **Free night out.**

# Cuba Packages

## Circuit Cuba Te Espera

### Day 4

- Breakfast at the hotel and check out
- Early departure to Varadero Beach
- Excursion to Rio Canimar
- River boat ride
- Lunch at local restaurant
- Leisure time: Rest in hammocks under the trees, fishing, or horseback riding
- Hotel check in at Varadero & Dinner
- **Free night out.**

### Day 5 to 7

- Free times to enjoy the sun and the beach

### Day 8

- Check out of the hotel in Varadero

## Hotel selection

### La Habana

- Combinacion A:** national
- Combinacion B:** Occidental Miramar
- Combinacion C:** Hotel Kholy

### Varadero

- Combinacion A:** Melia Varadero
- Combinacion B:** Sol Palmeras
- Combinacion C:** Villa Tortuga

## 8 Days

Havana / Vinales / Guama / Cienfuegos  
Trinidad / Villa Clara / Varadero

### Day 1

- Arrival to Havana, Check in and Dinner at hotel.
- **Free night out.**

### Day 2

- Breakfast at the hotel and pick-up for city tour;
- Visit to the Morro-Cabana Lookout.
- Walking Tour in Old Havana: Cathedral Square, Bar-Restaurant La Bodeguita Del Medio, Plaza de Armas Oficios Street, San Francisco de Asis Square
- Visit the Rum Museum and taster the Havana Club Rum
- Walking Tour to The Plaza Vieja (Old Square) and visit the Ambos Mundos Hote
- Lunch at local restaurant
- Panoramic tour of the Central Park, Gran Teatro de la Habana, The National Capitol, The Malecon (Havana Seawall), The Revolution Square, The Havana University Campus
- Return to hotel and dinner
- **Free night out.**

### Day 3

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Departure in air-conditioned bus to Vinales Valley in Pinar del Rio
- Visit to a cigars Factory in Candelaria Town
- A stop at the Belvedere in Los Jazmines - Visit to Finca El Paraiso - Sightseeing of Los Vinales Valley
- Visit the Prehistory Mural and boat tour of the Indian Cave and its underground river
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Return to hotel and dinner
- **Free night out.**

### Day 4

- Breakfast at the hotel & Departure for Cienfuegos.
- Visit "Fiesta Campesina" (first contact with the endemic flora and fauna of Zapata Peninsula)
- Visit The Crocodile Farm of the Guama resort.
- Lunch at local restaurant & Departure for Cienfuegos.
- Tour of Cienfuegos' main streets and avenues.
- Visit the Marti Park, the Palacio de Valle, the Tomas Terry Theatre, the house of Cultural Assets, and the Purisima Concepcion Cathedral
- The trip continues to Trinidad – Hotel Check-In
- **Free night out.**

### Day 5

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Panoramic tour of Trinidad: Visit the Main Parochial Church of the Holy Trinity, Plaza Mayor, and Count Brunt Brunet Palace – at present, a Romantic Museum.

# Cuba Packages

## Land, Cigar & Sun

- Visit to La Canchanchara Bar to enjoy a cocktail of the same name.
- Lunch at a local restaurant.
- Back to the hotel and dinner.
- **Free night out.**

### Day 6

- Breakfast at hotel, Check out, & Departure for Villa Clara.
- Visit to Che Museum and the Armoured Train.
- Tour of the Historical Center.
- Lunch at Los Caneyes.
- Trip continues to Varadero. Check in and dinner at selected hotel.
- **Free night out.**

### Day 7

- Free Day out in Varadero

### Day 8

- Breakfast at hotel, Check-out, & departure to Havana.

## Havana

- Combinacion A:** Nacional
- Combinacion B:** Occidental Miramar
- Combinacion C:** Kholy

## Trinidad

- Combinacion A:** Brisas Trinidad del Mar
- Combinacion B:** Ancon
- Combinacion C:** Costa Sur

## Varadero

- Combinacion A:** Brisas Trinidad del Mar
- Combinacion B:** Ancon
- Combinacion C:** Costa Sur



# Cuba Packages Getting to Know Cuba



## 11 Days

Havana / Cienfuegos / Trinidad  
Camaguey / Santiago de Cuba  
Baracoa

**Itinerary: 3 nights in Havana, 1 night in Cienfuegos, 1 night in Trinidad, 1 night in Camaguey, 3 nights in Santiago de Cuba, 1 night in Baracoa**

### Day 1: Sunday

Arrival, accommodation and dinner arranged in a selected hotel.

### Day 2: Monday

#### La Habana

Breakfast in the hotel. Pick-up at the hotel. Visit to the Morro-Cabana Lookout. Walking tour around Old Havana City Historic Center, Cultural Heritage of Mankind; Plaza de Armas; walk along Calle de Los Oficios up to Plaza de San Francisco de Asis. Visit the Rum Museum to become acquainted with Havana Club rum manufacturing process and also taste it. Continue along the Plaza Vieja (Old Square). Return on Mercaderes Street up to Ambos Mundos hotel, where renowned American writer Ernest Hemingway lived. Cathedral Square; the famous bar-restaurant La Bodeguita Del Medio. Panoramic bus tour by Revolution Museum, Central Park, Gran Teatro de la Habana. National Capitol and the Malecon sea-front drive. Lunch at local restaurant. After lunch tour around Modern Havana: revolution Square and Havana University. Return to hotel and Dinner

### Day 3: Tuesday

#### Havana / Vinales / Havana

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer by an air-conditioned bus to Vinales Valley in Pinar del Rio, Cuba's most western province where the world's best tobacco is grown. Exotic landscape with valleys crowded with royal palms, the national tree. In-transit visit to a cigar factory in Candelaria. On the way to Vinales a visit to "El Paraiso" farm, where you will learn about the lifestyle of local peasants as well as about the growing of tobacco. In Vinales, visit to the Pre-historic Mural (cave painting on the country's most ancient rocks) and the Indian Cave, boating along its underground river. Lunch at local restaurant. Stop at Los Jazmines lookout to admire the Vinales Valley. Return to the hotel and dinner. Back to the hotel. **Night free.**

### Day 4: Wednesday

#### La Habana / Cienfuegos

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Cienfuegos. In-transit visit to "Fiesta Campesina", first contact with the endemic flora and fauna of Zapata Peninsula. Lunch at local restaurant. Departure from Cienfuegos. Tour of Cienfuegos' main streets and avenues. Founded by the French. Cienfuegos is located at a wonderful bay guarded by Castillo de Jagua (Jagua Castle) where you can find the largest coral site ever discovered in Cuba that was christened Notre Dame. Visits to: the Marti Park, the Palacio del Valte, the Tomas Terry Theatre, the House of Cultural Assets, and the Purisima Conception Cathedral. Accommodation in Cienfuegos. **Night free**

### Day 5: Thursday

#### Cienfuegos / Trinidad

Breakfast in the hotel. Panoramic tour of Trinidad, one of the first villages founded by the Spaniards at the beginnings of the 16th century. It was declared by UNESCO Cultural Heritage of Mankind. Visit to the Main Parochia Church of the Holy Trinity housing a luxurious altar decorated with local precious stones, and images 300 years old; Plaza Mayor, and court Brunet Palace – at present, a Romantic Museum. Visit to La Canchanchara bar to enjoy a cocktail of the same name. Lunch at local restaurant. Back to the hotel and dinner. **Night free.**

### Day 6: Friday

#### Trinidad / Camaguey

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Camaguey. In-transit visit to Manaca Iznaga Sugar Cane Plantation. Arrival in Camaguey. Lunch at a local restaurant followed by a panoramic tour around the city with visits to Nuestra Senora de la Merced church and the Ignacio Agramonte House. Accommodation at selected hotel. Tour around Plaza del Carmen and dinner at El Ovejito restaurant. Back to the hotel. **Night free.**

### Day 7: Saturday

#### Camaguey / Santiago de Cuba

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Santiago de Cuba. In-transit panoramic visit to Bayamo city. Lunch at local restaurant. In-transit visit to "El Cobre" sanctuary. Arrival in Santiago de Cuba and accommodation in selected hotel. **Night free.**

### Day 8: Sunday

#### Santiago de Cuba

Breakfast in the hotel. Tour of Santiago de Cuba, capital of the Island during the first half of the 16th century. It is the most Caribbean City of Cuba. Famous for its history, hospitality, delightful people, traditional rhythm and dance. Visit the Santa Ifigenia Cemetery where the remains of Jose Marti, National Hero of Cuba, rest; panoramic tour by the Antonio Maceo Square and July 26 Museum. Walking sightseeing tour around the historical heart of the city; Cespedes Park, the Cathedral, Padre Pico and Heredia streets and Plaza Dolores. Visit the Morro Castle with Lunch. Dinner at the hotel. At night: Show at "Traditional Trova House"

### Day 9: Monday

#### Santiago de Cuba / Baracoa

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for Baracoa. In-transit lunch. Accommodation at selected hotel. Walking tour around the city, first village founded by Spanish colonizers in the American continent and first capital of the country. Visit the "Nuestra Senora de la Concepcion" church, where the first cross planted by the Spaniards in America – reportedly brought in by Christopher Columbus and considered to be the oldest symbol of Christian Religion in Cuba – is still kept. Also visit to Fuerte Matachin municipal museum. Dinner at the hotel.

### Day 10: Tuesday

#### Baracoa/ Guantanamo / Santiago de Cuba

Breakfast in the hotel. Visit Duaba Farm with Banana, coconut, cacao, mango and coffee plantations. Lunch at Duaba Farm. Departure from Santiago de Cuba. Arrival and accommodation. Dinner at hotel

### Day 11: Wednesday

#### Santiago de Cuba / La Habana

Breakfast in the hotel. Departure for airport to take a domestic flight to Havana. Arrival in Havana. End of services

#### La Habana

Combination A: National  
Combination B: Occidental Miramar  
Combination C: Kholy

#### Camaguey

Combination A: Gran Hotel  
Combination B: Gran Hotel  
Combination C: Plaza

#### Cienfuegos

Combination A: Jagua  
Combination B: Jagua  
Combination C: Rancho Luna

#### Santiago

Combination A: Hotel Melia Santiago  
Combination B: Melia Santiago  
Combination C: Las Americas

#### Trinidad

Combination A: Trinidad Del Mar  
Combination B: Ancon  
Combination C: Costa Sur

#### Baracoa

Combination A, B, C: El Castillo / Porto Santo

# Cuban Cigars

## Monte Cristo

Montecristo is the best known and probably the most appreciated brand of Habanos throughout the world. It forms the benchmark for many Habanos smokers against which other brands are judged. The name comes from the hero of Alexandre Dumas' famous novel "The Count of Montecristo", which was a firm favorite amongst the Torcedores (Cigar Makers) at the factory in Havana where it was founded in 1935. Today, the range, which was originally composed of a narrow assortment strictly numbered from 1 to 5, covers every level of the cigar enthusiasts' needs from the majestic "Montecristo A" to the tiny "Joyita".

In 2009, for the first time, a new line of Montecristo is born: "Montecristo Open", which incorporates 4 new Vitolas to the brand: Eagle (54x150mm), Regata (46x135mm), Master (50x124mm), and Junior (38x110mm), designed to satisfy all Montecristo lovers as well as to welcome new generations who would enjoy the pleasures of living "Alfresco". Montecristo's perfectly balanced blend is created exclusively with selected leaves from the Vuelta Abajo region, home of the finest tobaccos in the world. Its distinctive medium to full flavor and distinguished aroma appeal equally to both new and experienced smokers. All Montecristo sizes are and have always been "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" —Totally Handmade, Long Filler. Flavor Ranking: Medium to Full.

## Partagas

If there is one particularly famous cigar factory in Havana, it is Partagas. You can find it at No. 520 Industria Street, just behind the Capitol Building, in the heart of the city. The factory was opened in 1845 by Don Jaime Partagas and it has been making the cigars that bear his name ever since. A Partagas is immediately recognizable by its deep, earthy flavor. The character of its blend springs from a selection of tobaccos from the Vuelta Abajo region chosen for their unmistakable richness of flavor and aroma. Partagas come in a wide array of shapes and sizes. The best known are the Serie D No. 4, the Lusitania, and the 8-9-8, a cigar that is named after the way it is arranged in its box. In 2005, a new Vitola was launched in the brand, which came to enlarge the Partagas Line Series: Serie P No.2. This Vitola quickly became a Habano preference among the faithful admirers of the brand, characterized by its character and strength. All sizes are "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" — Totally Handmade, Long Filler, except two, which are "Mecanizado" or made by machines. Flavor Ranking: Full.

## Cohiba

Cohiba is the flagship brand of Habanos. It was created in 1966 for President Fidel Castro himself and was made at the then top secret but now world famous El Laguito Factory. At that time, it was only seen outside Cuba as gifts for heads of states and visiting diplomats and since 1982 Cohiba has been available in limited quantities to the open market.

The name is an ancient Taino-Indian word for the bunches of tobacco leaves that Columbus first saw being smoked by the original inhabitants of Cuba — the earliest known form of the cigar. The leaves for Cohiba are the "selection of the selection" from the five finest Vegas Finas de Primera in the San Juan y Martinez and San Luis zones of the Vuelta Abajo region. Uniquely amongst Habanos, two of Cohiba's filler leaves, the "Seco" and "Ligero", undergo a third fermentation in barrels; which adds smoothness to the blend. There are two distinct Lineas (Lines) of Cohiba: the medium to full flavored Linea Clasica introduced between 1966 and 1989; and the medium flavored Linea 1492 brought out in 1992 to mark the 500th Anniversary of Columbus's epic voyage of discovery. Ten years later in 2002, a new size, the Siglo VI, was added to the Linea 1492. All sizes of Cohiba are "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" Totally Handmade, long filler. Flavor Ranking: Medium to Full (Linea Clásica) and Medium (Linea 1492).

## Romeo Y Julieta

Named after William Shakespeare's tragic lovers, the origin of "Romeo y Julieta" as a Habano dates back to 1875. The brand rose to international fame during the early years of the 20th Century under the direction of Don "Pepin" Fernandez, a talented promoter, who was amongst the first to recognize the power of the cigar band. During its heydays no less than 20,000 different bands were used in production. Winston Churchill became a devotee of Romeo y Julieta. Since his visit to Havana in 1946, his name has not only been commemorated on a band but it has also served to describe the marquee of its most famous size measuring 7 inches (178mm) by 47 ring gauge — the Churchill. Romeo y Julieta's balanced and aromatic blend of selected leaves, from the Vuelta Abajo region, makes it the classic medium bodied Habano.

Today Romeo y Julieta is as well known around the world as ever and offers the widest range of Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga - totally handmade, long filler - sizes available in any Habano brand. In 2006, a new Vitola Short Churchills of Romeo y Julieta, was launched to the market; its name is: Robustos, the size that was missed in the brand. The VIII Habanos Festivals was the devised moment for its launch and the ideal opportunity of Habanos, S.A. to present the new image of the brand Romeo y Julieta with a new band and tube design. Flavor Ranking: Medium.

## Herman Upmann

Herman Upmann was a banker from Germany who so loved Cuban cigars that he moved to Havana in 1844 and set up as both a banker and a cigar maker. His bank closed in the early 1920s but his cigars live on as a fine example of an elegant light to medium-flavored Habano. All the leaves in H. Upmann are from the Vuelta Abajo tobacco region. Gold medals in no less than eleven international exhibitions during the 19th Century adorn the box — as does Herman Upmann's personal signature. The brand today comprises a wide range of "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" - Totally Handmade, Long Filler. Flavor Ranking: Light to Medium.

## Bolivar

Simon Bolívar was one of the greatest historic figures of the 19th Century who liberated much of South America from Spanish rule. The Bolívar brand was created in 1902 and is based today at the Partagas factory in the heart of Havana. It is perhaps not surprising that a Habano named after such a powerful figure is blended to match his might. Bolívar is among the strongest, most full bodied of all Habanos. It boasts an unrivalled richness of flavor in its blend of the Vuelta Abajo region tobaccos that makes it one of the most sought-after marquees amongst experienced smokers. All sizes are "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" - Totally Handmade, Long Filler. Flavor Ranking: Full.

## Punch

Punch is one of the oldest Habano brands. Don Manuel Lopez of Juan Valle & Co founded it in the mid 19th Century with an eye to the booming British market where a humorous magazine of the same name was much in vogue. A contented Mr. Punch, the clown who personified the magazine, is still featured in every box, cigar in hand, and surrounded by 19th Century images of cigar making that remain virtually unchanged over a century and a half later. In 1925, the Punch moved to the factory where Hoyo de Monterrey was made and this long association continues to the present day. Punch's distinct medium flavor created with a blend of tobaccos from the Vuelta Abajo region is available in a wide variety of sizes, all "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" - Totally Handmade, Long Filler. Flavor Ranking: Medium.

## Robaina

The Robaina family has been farming tobacco continuously since 1845 on their precious Vegas (fields) at Cuchillas de Barbacoa situated in the San Luis zone of the Vuelta Abajo tobacco region. Vegas Robaina Cigars were introduced in 1997 as a tribute to the legendary ability of the family's patriarch Don Alejandro Robaina, who is pictured on every box. All five Vegas Robaina Vitolas are dressed with wrappers from the Robaina family's farm and are "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" - Totally Handmade, Long Filler. Flavor Ranking: Medium to Full

## Hoyo de Monterrey

Hoyo de Monterrey owes its origin to the town of San Luis y Martinez, which lies at the heart of the Vuelta Abajo tobacco region. There, the Hoyo de Monterrey plantation can be reached through a gate on the town's main square where a sign that says "Hoyo de Monterrey. José Gener. 1860" is installed. "Hoyo" literally means a "hole" and in this case describes the low-lying position of the plantation on the fertile banks of San Juan y Martinez River. José Gener, a Catalan, first used the name of his Vega on a brand of Habanos in 1865. The flavor of Hoyo de Monterrey's blend makes it an attractive choice for those who seek a delicate, yet aromatic, Habano that is lighter to the taste but with great elegance and complexity. The best-known sizes are the Double Corona and the Epicure Nos. 1 and 2 but there is also a range of standard and slender gauge Vitolas known as Le Hoyo Series. All sizes are "Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" - Totally Handmade, Long Filler. Flavor Ranking: Light.

## Ramón Allones

Ramón Allones is one of the big names in the history of Habanos. Founded in 1837, it is also one of the oldest brands in production. A Galician by birth, Ramón Allones was the first cigar manufacturer to pack his cigars in boxes decorated with labels and stamped with his brand's emblem. He was the pioneer of the packaging we know today. All the cigars are filled with a blend of tobaccos from the Vuelta Abajo region, characterized by their intense and complex taste. The range includes Totalmente a Mano, Tripa Larga" - Totally Handmade, Long Filler cigars such as the famous Gigantes and Specially Selected. Flavor Ranking: Full.





## IT'S ALL THE RANGE

DUNHILL'S NICARAGUAN MASTERPIECES

## GOING OUT IN A LIMO

DRIVING THE AUDI A8L IN BAVARIA

## PATEK PHILIPPE

ADORNING ROYAL WRISTS SINCE 1851

## RAMON ALLONES FAMILY



## FAT BOY SPECIAL

WE PUT NEW WIDE CIGARS TO THE TEST

COHIBA BEHIKE  
RyJ WIDE CHURCHILL  
PARTAGAS SERIE D ESPECIAL  
MONTY GRAND EDMUNDO  
TRINIDAD SHORT ROBUSTO



## RECETA DEL MOJITO

- ½ Spoon of White Sugar
- ½ Oz of Lime Juice
- Add leaves of Hierba Buena
- Add 3 Oz of Sparkling Water
- Macerate the stem (without damaging the leaves)
- Add 2 or 3 Ice Cubes
- Add 1 & ½ Oz of Havana Club rum 3 years
- Stir well
- Add three dashes of Angostura bitter

