



TRIP TO CUBA

## EXPLORE A WEEKEND IN OLD & CLASSIC HAVANA

LA HABANA

04 DAYS | 03 NIGHTS

### TRIP OUTLINE

DAY 01	MIAMI - LA HABANA	WELCOME TO CUBA
DAY 02	LA HABANA	EXPLORE COLONIAL & CLASSIC HAVANA
DAY 03	LA HABANA	HEMINGWAY'S CUBA
DAY 04	LA HABANA - MIAMI	ADIOS CUBA

**DAY 1**      **MIAMI - LA HABANA | BIENVENIDOS A CUBA**

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**TOURS**



**ARRIVE TO HAVANA | JOSE MARTI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**



**CITY TOUR VIA SCENIC ROUTE** An introductory driving tour of Havana (Vedado and Old Havana) in your way to lunch in el Vedado district of Modern Havana. Travel back in time as you arrive in Cuba, sit back and enjoy a city tour via your scenic route as you enter the City of Havana. Drive along the water front The Malecon; the Metropolitan balcony that borders the coast for about 12 kilometers, from the entrance of Havana Bay (La Punta Castle) to the fortress of La Chorrera, near the mouth of the river Almendares.



**HOTEL CHECK IN | IBEROSTAR PARQUE CENTRAL HABANA VIEJA** The elegant 5-star IBEROSTAR Parque Central Hotel is located in central Havana, Cuba. Known for its Spanish colonial-style architecture, which pulls in the rich culture of the streets, our top hotel is regarded as the best hotel in Havana. The IBEROSTAR Parque Central Hotel is an excellent starting point for tourists wanting to dive into Cuba's history and explore the most authentic streets and corners in Havana. Whether you are staying with us as a family holiday or a couple's getaway, our top hotel in the Havana is guaranteed to be an unforgettable experience.

In the center of Havana, the IBEROSTAR Parque Central Hotel is nestled in the heart of Havana. Thanks to its coveted location, the hotel is within close proximity to the Capitol's featured tourist sites, lined with music and the best attractions and popular destinations such as Bar Floridita and La Bodeguita del Medio. Unmatched Views. Guests can admire unbelievable city views from the charming French windows and doors of the hotel.

Our hotel allows for unrivalled vistas of Havana's distinct glass buildings including the Capitol Building, the Great Theatre of Havana, and the Fine Arts Museum. Guests can also enjoy the most spectacular views from the IBEROSTAR Parque Central Hotel's pristine rooftop swimming pool. Luxury and Comfort. Every comfort and luxury that you could hope for in a hotel is offered at the IBEROSTAR Parque Central. All rooms are fully furnished and provide a wide array of facilities. Accommodation choices range from our Double Rooms to the majestic Presidential Suite.



**FORTALEZA DE SAN CARLOS DE LA CABAÑA** The FORTALEZA DE SAN CARLOS DE LA CABAÑA, colloquially known as La Cabaña, an 18th-century fortress complex, the third-largest in the Americas, located on the elevated eastern side of the harbor entrance in Havana, Cuba. The fort rises above the 200-foot hilltop, along with Morro Castle. Up to the mid XX century it was home to one of the most notorious prisons. Today declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO, the complex is now part of a historical park, along with the EL MORRO fortress, and houses several museums open to the public. As you walk thru the fortress in your way to the top of the where the ceremony takes place every night, you will have the opportunity to mingle and shop from local Cuban artist that every night set up their art booths in the old cobble streets of the fort. At 9 PM every evening, a cannon is fired and the so-called "EL CAÑONAZO DE LAS 9", a custom kept from colonial times signaling the closure of the gates in the city wall takes place. Foreign travelers and locals to the city have the unique opportunity to witness a tradition that began in the eighteenth century. You will also have a unique chance to mingle with hundreds of Cubans who are drawn to the ceremony each night. The saying goes among the Cuban people that if you are a real Cuban, you must have attended the shooting of the cannon at least once in your lifetime.





**CEREMONIA DEL CAÑONAZO** After dinner, around 8 PM, we will walk towards the AVENIDA DEL PUERTO where our bus will pick you up to travel across the Havana bay via the TÚNEL DE LA HABANA or the TÚNEL DE LA BAHÍA, which links the historic forts on the eastern bank with the opulent Spanish Colonial architecture of the Old City. With a fascinating history, bringing locals and foreigners alike to the great city of Havana for over fifty years, before the tunnel, people had to travel approximately 25 kilometers around Guanabacoa to cross the harbor whereas now it only takes a driver 45 seconds traveling at a speed of 60 kph to reach the other side. The 733 meter-long tunnel was built between 1957-1958 by the French company *French Société des Grand Travaux de Marseille* and the excavation work was conducted by the Cuban company *PERFORADORA PANAMERICANA* owned and operated by Cuban engineers Gerardo and Fernando Pérez Puelles.

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**DAY 1** **MIAMI - LA HABANA | BIENVENIDOS A CUBA**  
**MEALS**

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**DINNER | LA MONEDA CUBANA PALADAR** Located at the entrance of the Plaza of the Havana Cathedral, la Moneda Cubana had its beginnings in 1924 where they sold food and liquor among other items. Today, this restaurant-paladar welcomes its customers with the Cuban house warm and its most exquisite Cuban flavors while they enjoy the beauty of the colonial Old Havana and the wonderful views that can be seen from la Moneda Cubana.



**WELCOME CUBAN DRINKS | EL FLORIDITA** This legendary Havana bar, one of many regularly frequented by papa Hemmingway, is classy and smart, presided over by waiters in natty red jackets. Proud of its reputation as the The Cradle of the Daiquiri, there is really only one drink to order here it would be remiss not to. The décor is plush and upscale and the room is dominated by the long central bar though there's further seating in the back. The mood is mature and sophisticated. Its appeal resides mainly in its literary heritage but if you want to cool off on a hot afternoon or prop up the bar in honor of the man himself, it's worth a visit. Serves a mean platter of sautéed shrimp as well, though it has to be said that the food is pretty steeply priced for what you get.



**MORNING CITY WALKING TOUR | LA HABANA COLONIAL** Walk through the main streets and squares of the historic center of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Filled with architectural jewels spanning five hundred years, La Habana Vieja enchants Cubans and visitors with one of the finest ensembles of urban edifices in the world. At a conservative estimate, Old Havana accumulates over 1000 buildings of historical significance, with myriad examples of architecture ranging from 16th-century Spanish Colonial to 17th Century Cuban Baroque to 19th Century Neoclassical to 20th Century Eclectic Modern, including Art Nouveau and Art Deco. In the morning visit LA ALAMEDA DE PAULA, LA PLAZA DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASSISI, LA PLAZA DEL CRISTO and LA PLAZA VIEJA, in the afternoon visit LA PALZA DE ARMAS and LA PLAZA DE LA CATEDRAL, all which are of the greatest colonial architectural heritage of Havana.









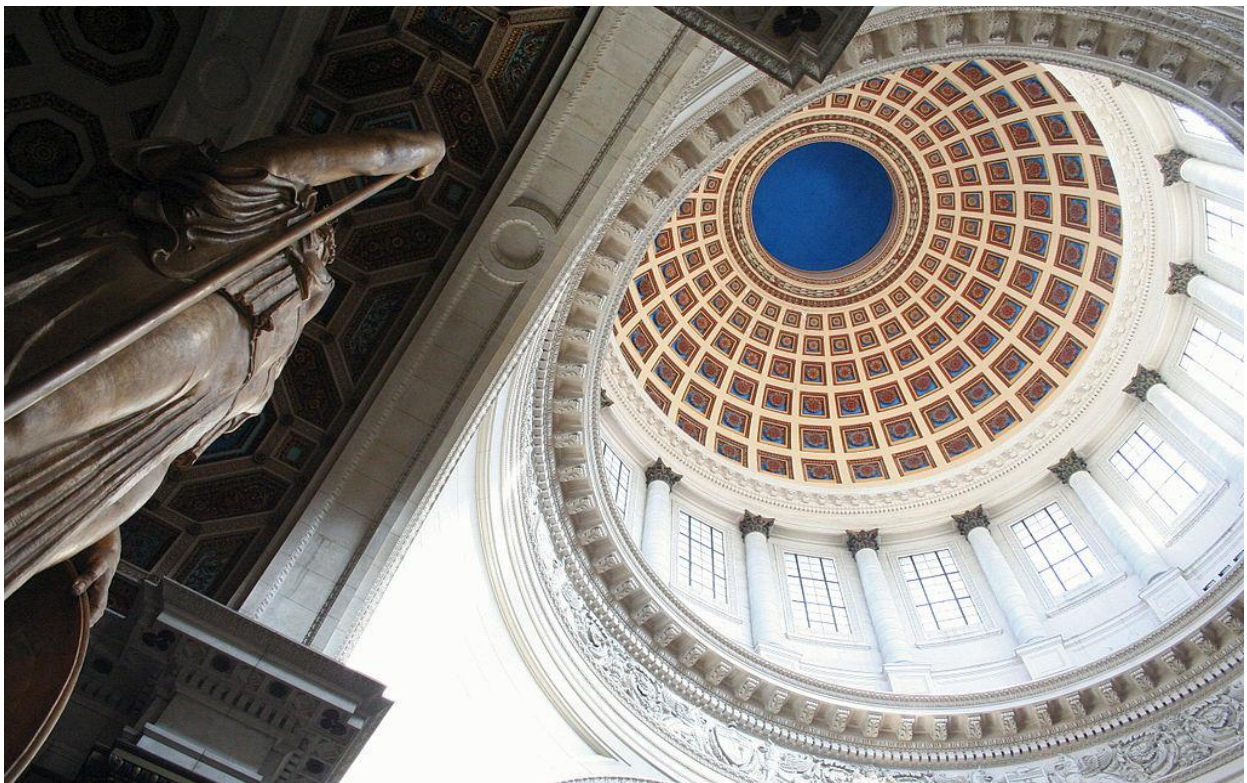
## MORNING AND AFTERNOON CITY WALKING TOUR | LA HABANA VIEJA





**AFTERNOON CITY WALKING TOUR | LA HABANA CLASICA**





**VISIT AND TOUR | CAPITOLIO NACIONAL** | El Capitolio, or National Capitol Building in Havana, Cuba, was the organization of government in Cuba until after the Cuban Revolution in 1959, and is now once again the seat of the government. "El Capitolio" has a size of 681 by 300 ft. Its design is compared to that of the United States Capitol, but is not a replica, its copula is higher than the



one in of the USA and is profiled after the dome of Saint Paul Cathedral in London. Completed in 1929 it houses the world's second largest indoor statue. The project began on April 1926, during the Gerardo Machado administration. Construction was overseen by the U.S. firm of Purdy and Henderson. Prior to the Cuban Revolution of 1959, the Cuban Congress was housed in the building. When the Congress was abolished and disbanded following the Cuban Revolution in 1959, the building lost its purpose as the House of the People. Later it ended up as the headquarters of the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment.

According to its designer, Eugenio Rayneri Piedra, who had studied architecture in the United States, the inspiration for the cupola came from the Panthéon in Paris and Saint Pauls Cathedral in London. The cupola, which is stone clad around a steel frame which was constructed in the United States and imported to Cuba. At almost 92 m (302 ft) high, the dome was the highest point in the city of Havana until the 1950s (this honour now belongs to the José Martí Memorial). It was the third highest cupola in the world at the time of its construction.

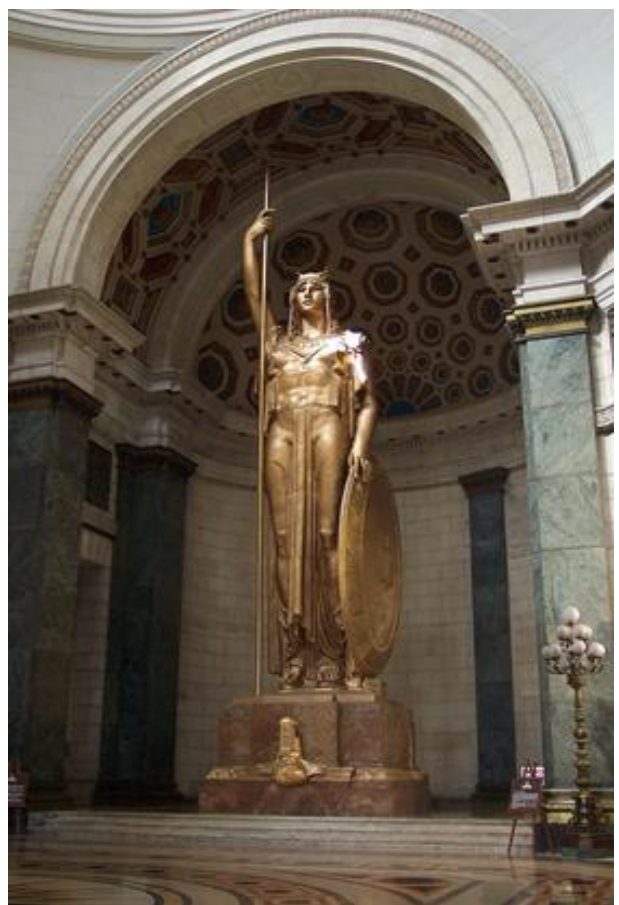
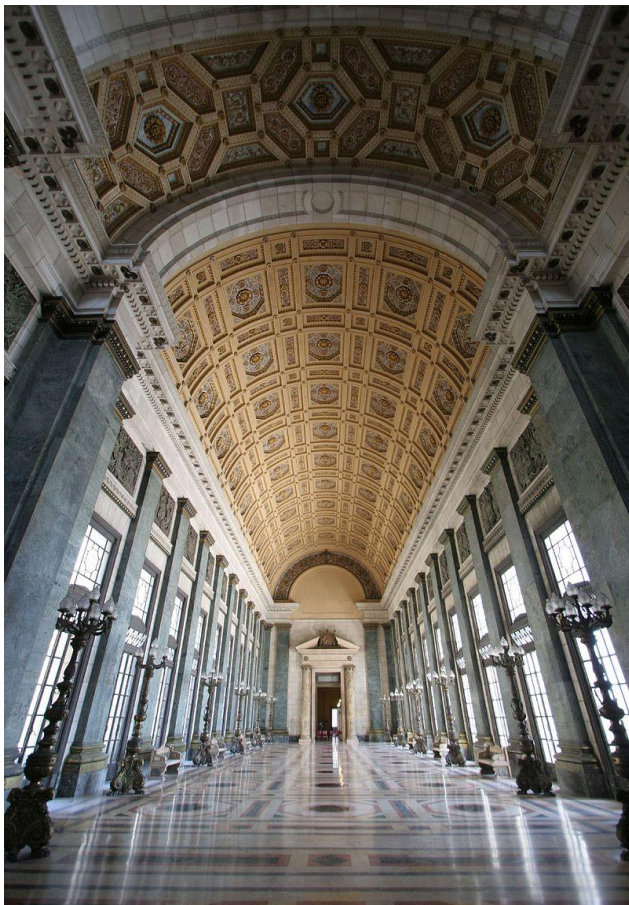
Around the building are gardens laid out by French landscape architect and designer Jean-Claude Nicolas Forestier at the time of the original construction. Based on the designs of some of the beautiful simple European gardens they consist of areas of lawn bordered by paths and highlighted by palms. Four groups of Royal Palms accent the design. The 55 steps leading to the main entrance, known as La Escalinata are flanked on either side by 6.5 m (21 ft) statues by the Italian artist Angelo Zanelli. To the left is Work (El Trabajo) and to the right The Tutelary Virtue (La Virtud Tutelar). The steps lead up to the central portico, which is 36 m (118 ft) wide and more than 16 m (52 1/2 ft) tall. There are 12 granite Roman style columns arranged in two rows and each over 14 m (46 ft) tall. Beyond the portico, three large bronze doors with bas-reliefs by Zanelli allow access to the main hall.

To either side of the main hall is the Salón de Pasos Perdidos (Hall of Lost Steps), named for its acoustic properties. The inside of the main hall under the cupola is dominated by the huge Statue of the Republic (La Estatua de la República). The statue, also by Zanelli, was cast in bronze in Rome in three pieces and assembled inside the building after its arrival in Cuba. It is covered with 22 carat (92%) gold leaf and weighs 49 tons. At 15 m (49 1/4 ft) tall, it was the second highest statue under cover in the world at the time, with only the Great Buddha of Nara being taller. The statue stands on a plinth 2.5 m (8 1/4 ft) high bringing the total height to 17.54 m (57 1/2 ft). A Creole Cuban, Lily Valtý served as the model for the body for Zanelli, and the inspiration for the statue came from Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom.

Embedded in the floor in the center of the main hall is a replica 25 carat (5 g) diamond, which marks Kilometre Zero for Cuba. The original diamond, belonged to Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and have been sold to the Cuban state by a Turkish merchant, was stolen on 25 March 1946 and mysteriously returned to the President, Ramón Grau San Martín, on 2 June 1946. To either side of the main hall is the Salón de Pasos Perdidos (Hall of Lost Steps), named for its acoustic properties. These halls, with inlaid marble floors and gilded lamps, lead to the two semicircular chambers that formerly housed the Parliament and Chamber of Deputies. The Parliament chamber to the right of building is backed on to by the President's office which has a door opening directly onto the dais. A range of different lamps are seen throughout the building. These were all designed specifically for the building by Cuban designers and the majority of them manufactured in France. In the Centre of the building are two patios which provide light and ventilation for the offices of first (ground), third and fourth floors. The north patio features another statue The Rebellious Angel (El Ángel Rebelde) which was donated to the building after the inauguration. There is a small fifth floor, and a sixth floor which gives access only to part of the cupola.











## **VISIT AND TOUR | THE FORMER PRESIDENTIAL PALACE**

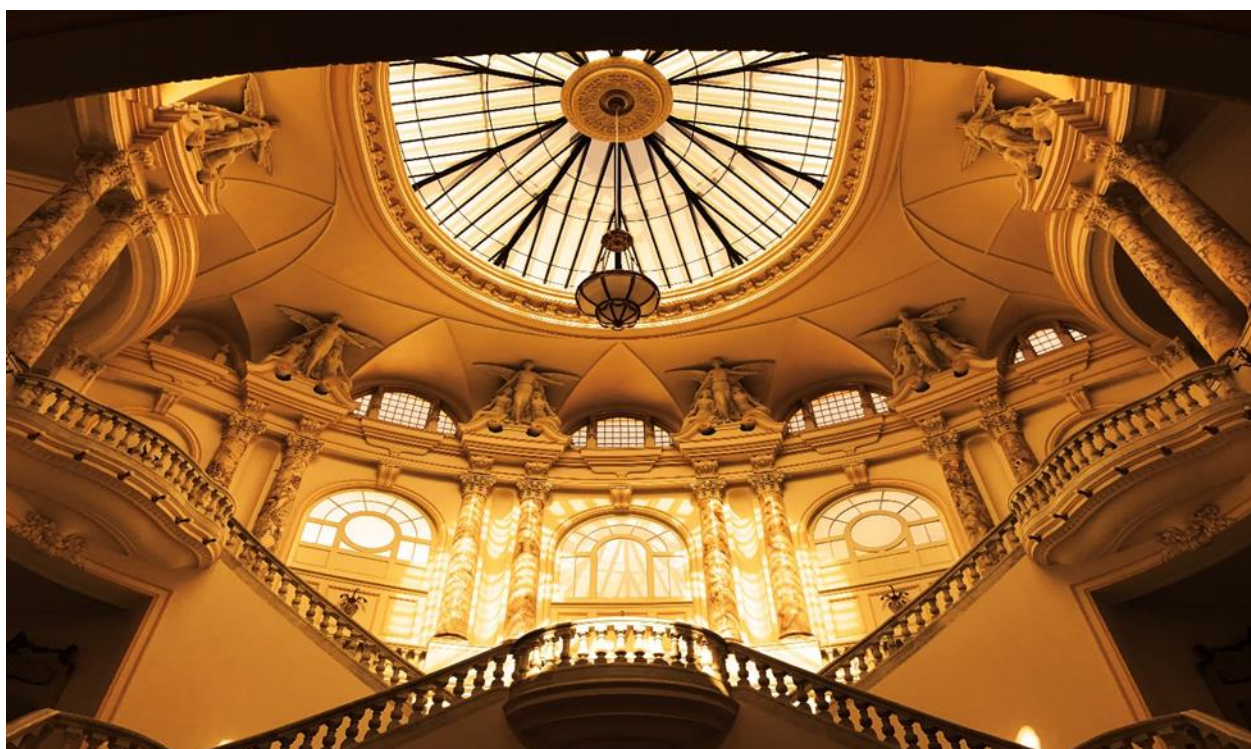
Across the street from the LOMA DEL ANGEL as you exit the Old Havana city grid one encounters LA AVENIDA DE LAS MISIONES. Finished construction in 1910's, as the arrival promenade to the new presidential palace at the time, originally was the grounds where once stood the old city walls - Missions Avenue formerly Monserrate Street. Today you will see the remains of old city wall at the steps of the former Presidential Palace port cache. In 1863 the Old city walls were been demolished and the city was spilling west into what is known today as Centro Habana. The Cuban Presidential Palace was built

between 1909 and 1920 to be the seat of the provincial government in Havana, but President Mario García Menocal chose to host the Executive Power. In 1974 it became a Museum and in 2010 was declared a National Monument.

In 1909, General Ernesto Asbert, then governor of Havana, decided to build a new headquarters which accommodated the Provincial Government. The project was designed by the architects Rodolfo Maruri (Cuban) and Paul Belau (Belgian), while the construction phase was assumed by the General Contracting Company from the USA. The interior decoration was the responsibility of Tiffany Studios directly from Paris, France. The building, designed as a great example of Eclecticism, consumed for its completion a budget that exceeded more than half million pesos. All floors and stairs were coated with Carrara marble. In 1917 the history of the property had an important twist that marked its subsequent fate. Later that year, the First Lady of the Republic, Mariana Seva visited the construction site and was captivated by the magnificence of the building and its privileged location.

Mario García Menocal, her husband and president, put his hand to the legal arguments necessary and dispossessed the Provincial Government of the palace property. In early 1918 everything was arranged for the building to become Presidential Palace of the Republic of Cuba. On January 31, 1920 the Executive Mansion was officially opened, although the work, in all its details, was not completed until the day March 12, 1920. From January 1, 1959 until 1965, the Presidential Palace was the seat for the Council of Ministers. On January 4, 1974, the former Presidential Palace became the permanent seat of the Museum of the Revolution and was declared a National Monument with Resolution No. 01 on March 13, 2010.





**VISIT THE FORMER CENTRO GALLEGO | TEATRO NACIONAL** Make your way towards the *PARQUE CENTRAL* but first as you exit the *MUSEO NACIONAL DE ARTE*, don't skip taking a peek inside the Former *BACARDI OFFICE TOWER*, an extraordinary example of Art Deco architecture. The building was designed by architects Rafael Fernández Ruenes, Esteban Rodríguez Castell and José Menéndez, for the Bacardi rum company. The art deco landmark was completed in 1930 and



was at the time the largest building in the city. After the Cuban revolution and the confiscation of Bacardi by the revolutionary government, the building continued to be used for offices. At the end of the 1990's, it was renovated by the city historian's office. In the heart of Havana, on the *PASEO DEL PRADO*, opposite Central Park and located between the Capitol and the historic *HOTEL INGLATERRA* (now operated by *Starwood Hotels*, an unprecedented accomplishment after the new USA-CUBA relations since December 17, 2014), stands the imposing Galician Center of Havana and National Theater. An architectural gem of Havana that re open its doors this January after a multimillion restoration by the city historian's office.

Inaugurated on April 15, 1838 as the most important theater in the capital and one of the largest in the continent, *EL TEATRO TACON* was replaced in 1914 by the Galician Center that was built on the entire city block. The architectural work salvaged the original theater stage and seating from the Tacon Theater, and adjusted the remainder of the complex with a new façade. The architectural work was of the Belgian architect Paul Belevu (same architect of the Presidential Palace) and built in neo-baroque style. In its main façade, it houses four marble sculptures representing allegories of charity, education, music and theater, work of Giuseppe Moretti. The items were placed in a balanced way, balconies, windows, cornices, the proportion of its towers and trim unit achieve an elegant rhythm. In 1913 work was completed on the Social Palace and in 1915 the theater was completed. Today the building houses its original splendor and frames the *GRAN CAPITOLIO NACIONAL DE CUBA* also currently undergoing a major multimillion restoration by the Office of the Historian of Havana.





**VISIT THE NECROPOLIS DE LA HABANA** The Colon Cemetery, or more fully in the Spanish language Cementerio de Cristóbal Colón, was founded in 1876 in the Vedado neighbourhood of Havana, Cuba on top of Espada Cemetery. Named for Christopher Columbus, the 140 acre (57 ha) cemetery is noted for its many elaborately sculpted memorials. It is estimated that today the cemetery has more than 500 major mausoleums, many built by Victor Citarella, chapels, and family vaults. Colon Cemetery is one of the great historical cemeteries of the world, and is generally held to be the most important in Latin America in historical and architectural terms, second only to La Recoleta in Buenos Aires. Prior to the opening of the Colon Cemetery, Havana's dead were laid to rest in the crypts of local church catacombs and then, beginning in 1806, at Havana's newly opened Espada Cemetery. When locals realized there would be a need for a larger space for their community's dead (due to an 1868 cholera outbreak), planning then began for the Colon Cemetery.

It was built by the Galician architect Calixto Arellano de Loira y Cardoso, a graduate of Madrid's Royal Academy of Arts of San Fernando, and who became Colón's first occupant when he died before his work was completed. Yet for all its elegance and grandeur Colon Cemetery conceals as much as it displays. Empty tombs and desecrated family chapels disfigure the stately march of Cuban family memorials even in the most prominent of the avenues, and away from the central cross-streets, ruin. Many of these are the tombs of exiled families, whose problems with caring for their dead have been complicated by residence in new countries. The first impact of Colon

Cemetery is a seemingly endless succession of tombs blinding white in the midday heat, few shade trees and nowhere to sit. In front of the main entrance, at the axes of the principal avenues Avenida Cristobal Colón, Obispo Espada and Obispo Fray Jacinto, stands the Central Chapel apparently modelled on Il Duomo in Florence. On every side rectangular streets lead geometrically to the cemetery's 56 hectares, designed by Loira to define the rank and social status of the dead with distinct areas, almost city suburbs: priests, soldiers, brotherhoods, the wealthy, the poor, infants, victims of epidemics, pagans and the condemned. The best preserved and grandest tombs stand on or near these central avenues and their axes.



**VISIT AND TOUR THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS OF HAVANA** The University of Havana located in the Vedado district of Havana, was Founded on January 5, 1728. The university is the oldest in Cuba, and one of the first to be founded in the Americas. Originally a religious institution, today the University of Havana has 15 colleges at its Havana campus.

*"Jean Claude Forestier referred to his plans as the Great Urban Works of Havana. His plans essentially transformed the whole city of Havana and remodeling with a new structure never seen before. Such a plan had to be great. Basically, Forestier saw the city in terms of a large garden. Far from being just a system of radial avenues, the aim of his proposal was to take control of the landscape. To him, the architectural plan of the city was inseparable from the urban park plan. Forestier went ahead using a similar approach to design the university campus"*

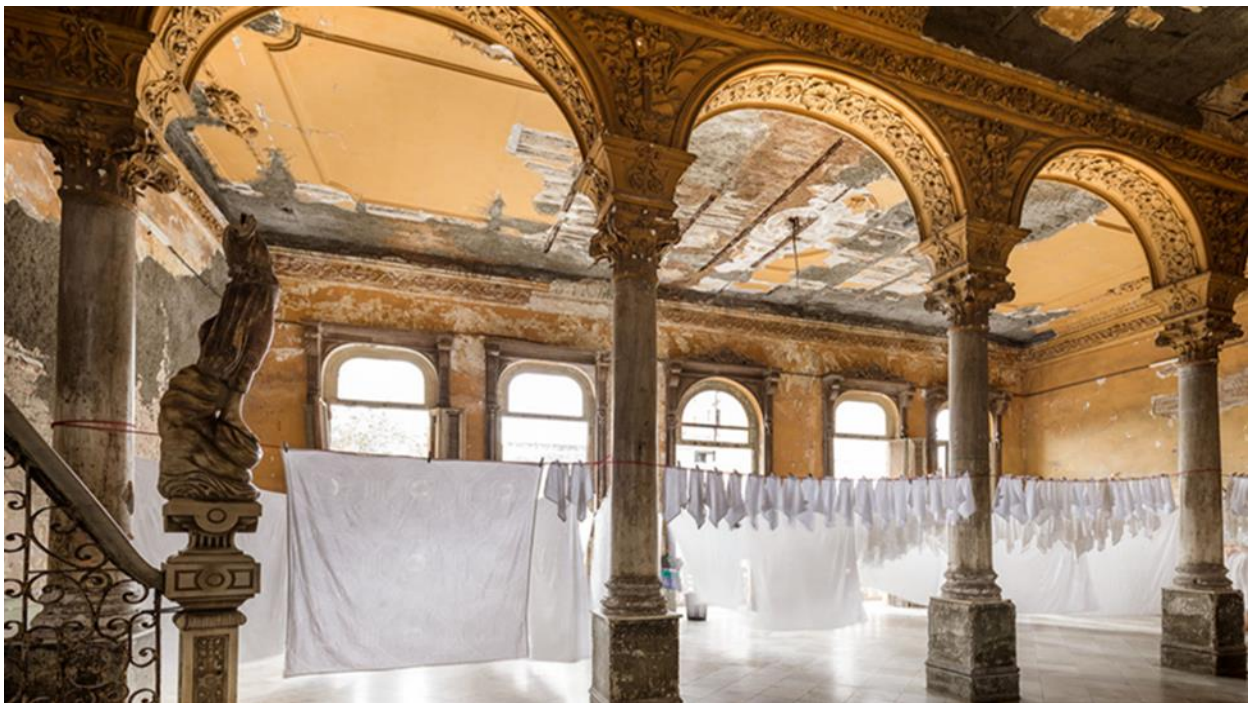


**DAY 2** **LA HABANA** | EXPLORE COLONIAL HAVANA  
**MEALS**

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**LUNCH | AL CARBÓN PALADAR** Al Carbón, a new restaurant in Havana, is a strong addition to Havana's fine dining scene. Al Carbón follows a decorative similar to Ivan y Justo, charmingly mixing antiques and vintage objects of various periods. The menu provides ample choices, from ubiquitous tuna tartar starters to the savory and highly recommended suckling pig tacos. In fact, pork is king here. The piglet charcoal-grilled in the wood oven is a fantastic, rich, and crunchy tour de force.



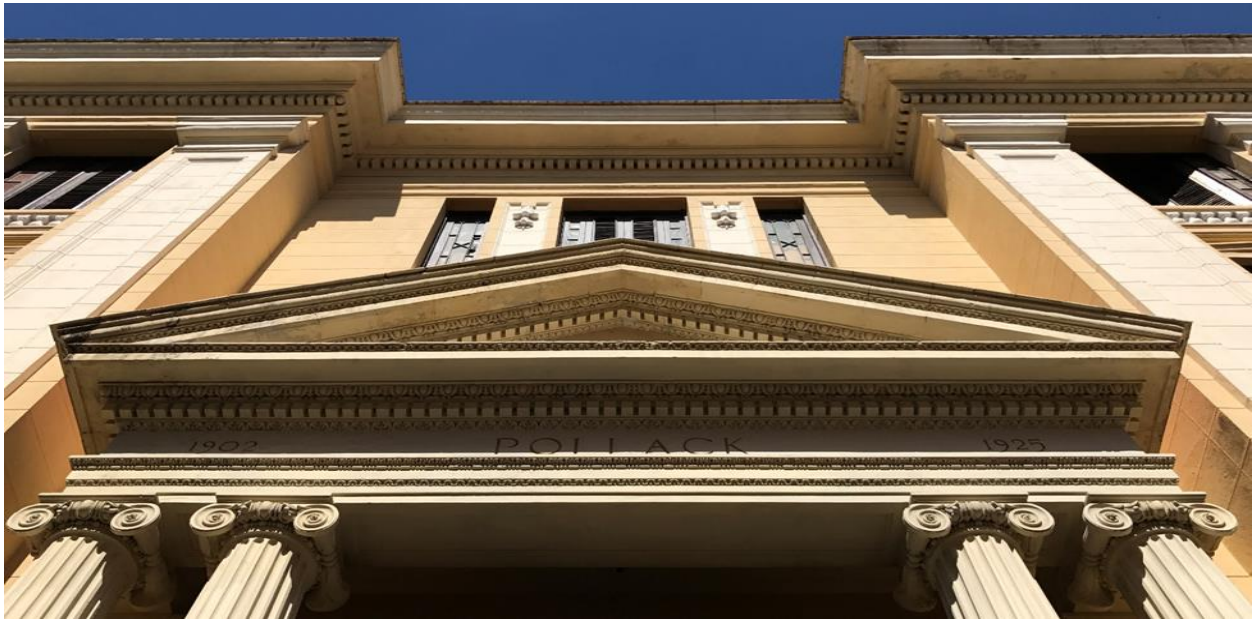
**DINNER | LA GUARIDA PALADAR LA GUARIDA** the famous Havana paladar is situated at CALLE CONCORDIA 418 in CENTRO HABANA. The entrance through an old gateway in a crumbling

mansion lead to a monumental stairway. The restaurant is located at the third floor. This 5 Star Paladar was visited by the royal highness Queen Sofia of Spain and lots of movie stars and Hollywood celebrities. Scenes of the Oscar nominated Cuban Movie 'FRESA Y CHOCOLATE' were filmed at this location. The interior is decorated with pictures of the many celebrities that visited the LA GUARIDA restaurant. The quality of the dishes is among the best Cuban food you can experience in Havana. On the top floor of a spectacularly dilapidated Havana tenement, La Guarida's lofty reputation rests on its movie-location setting of FRESA Y CHOCOLATE. Anyone who has been to LA GUARIDA will find it difficult to disagree that the owners have managed to create their own magical place. It oodles a cozy atmosphere with soft lights, fine table linen, German silver cutlery, candles, Cuban music and good jazz. The effect is magnified by the entrance from a run-down Central Havana Street. The building, originally known as LA MANSIÓN CAMAGÜEY, shows its former grandeur from the magnificent wooden entrance door through the marble staircase up the two flights of stairs to the restaurant itself.



**AFTER DINNER | LA GUARIDA PALADAR LA GUARIDA ROOF TOP BAR**





**VISIT AND TOUR | FABRICA DE TABACO IN OLD HAVANA** It's hard to believe that the famous tobacco exporter Mark A. Pollack built this splendid structure located behind the Briones Montoto factory just to store his excellent tobacco. Fully renovated in recent years, the gorgeous building is housing a Partagás worksite while its walls shine a gleaming white.

Touring a Cuban cigar factory is a journey back in time. You walk through the wide doorway with the tropical heat following you inside, and step onto a cracked marble floor, wondering just how many shoes have walked this weathered path before you. The clamor of workers going about their business reaches your ears and grows in volume with every step: *"A shout in rapid-fire Cuban Spanish, a call to an amigo, a friendly laugh, the hearty baritone of a golden-throated lector reading the daily news"*.

Havana is the birthplace of premium cigars, and the city is dotted with cigar factories of all shapes and sizes. Cuban cigarmakers, unlike their counterparts in most of the non-Cuban cigar world, make the entire cigar themselves. The rolling gallery has style, with large windows that open in the middle and a grand stage at the front of the room, where a lector sits, carefully reading the news aloud to the cigarmakers as they work.



**VISIT AND TOUR | "FINCA VIGIA" HEMINGWAY'S CUBA RETREAT** Ten miles east of Havana is Hemingway's Cuba house - *FINCA VIGIA*, meaning "lookout house". *FINCA VIGIA* is located in the small, working-class town of San Francisco de Paula. The Cuban people have always respected famous writer's choice to live in a modest town, amongst the people he fished with. Hemingway lived in the house from mid-1939 to 1960, renting it at first, and then buying it in December 1940 after he married his third spouse Martha Gellhorn.

Built in 1886 by a Spanish Architect Miguel Pascual y Baguer, *FINCA VIGIA* was purchased by Hemingway in 1940 for a cost of \$12,500. The property was located for Hemingway by Gellhorn, who had come to Cuba to be with Hemingway but decided she did not want to live in the small room he rented at the Hotel Ambos Mundos. The *FINCA VIGIA* at the time consisted of 15 acres with a farmhouse. Your guide will provide you with a summary of the property and show you everything from his lighthouse where he often wrote, to his beautiful wooden yacht. There, Hemingway wrote two of his most celebrated novels: *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Old Man and the Sea*. *A Movable Feast* was written there as well. After the Cuban revolution of early 1959, Hemingway was on good terms with the Cuban government, and even officially presented a trophy in Havana in the summer of 1960 to Castro, for winning a sport fishing contest named for Hemingway. Nevertheless, as depression and illness overtook him, Hemingway left Cuba in mid-1960, and the Cuban home that he had lived in for over twenty years. In the fall of 1960 the Cuban government expropriated a great deal of foreign property, and the U.S. government broke off relations with Cuba in October 1960 and imposed a partial financial embargo. After the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961 and Cuba's announcement that it was a Communist state in May,



relations between Cuba and the U.S. deteriorated further. Hemingway was being treated for severe depression in the U.S. through the first half of 1961, and the Hemingway's could not return to Cuba. Hemingway committed suicide in Idaho on July 2, 1961. The official Cuban government account is that after Hemingway's death, Mary Hemingway deeded the home, complete with furnishings and library, to the Cuban people, which made it into a museum devoted to the author. Mary Hemingway, however, stated that after Hemingway's suicide, the Cuban government contacted her in Idaho and announced that it intended to expropriate the house, along with all real property in Cuba. Mary Hemingway negotiated with the Castro government for certain easily movable personal property, plus manuscripts deposited in a vault in Havana. Most of their personal property, with no way to move it out of the country at the time, had to be abandoned. After years of neglect, restoration and preservation work has begun. *FINCA VIGÍA* has made both the World Monuments Fund list of 100 Most Endangered sites, and The National Trust for Historic Preservation's 11 Most Endangered Places.



**VISIT AND TOUR MUSEO DEL RON** A visit to the Havana Club Museum of Rum isn't merely a journey back to the origins of Cuba's most famous beverage. From freshly cut stalks of sugar cane to a

reconstitution of a distillery and ageing cellars, the museum offers a real-time experience of the rum-making process, as well as a taste of true Cuban culture.

Situated in the historic district of Habana Vieja ("old Havana"), the museum is housed in a renovated 18th-century "solar" (colonial townhouse). Downstairs is a shady patio, with its broad stone columns and ferns, yuccas and potted palms. A bell signals the start of the museum tour, and you follow the guide up a flight of stone steps. The first landing presents a view of the cooper shop, demonstrating the craftsmanship required to build and prepare the oak casks inside which the fine rums will age. An upstairs gallery features an authentic mule-driven cane mill used in the earliest "ingenios" (sugar refineries). A historically accurate model of a steam locomotive reminds us that Cuba was the first country in Latin America to use a railway for the transport of sugar cane. The next door leads to a much larger model, the achievement of a master Cuban craftsman. This masterpiece captures the essence of the great sugar refineries and rum distilleries, whose immense chimneys rise as landmarks over the Cuban countryside.

The wealth of detail stuns the eye: wagons transporting the cane from the fields, smoke rising from chimneys, cane cutters chatting on the porch....

Another staircase leads to the fermentation and distilling rooms, where you'll see wooden fermentation casks, gleaming copper distillation columns, and pipes that transport the "aguardient" into various tanks. In the languid warmth of the ageing cellars, oak barrels take their place in shaded alcoves like statues in a cathedral. This is where the various rums mellow patiently, awaiting the intervention of the Maestro Ronero. The visit continues down a spiral staircase into the museum's tasting room, with its immense wooden bar reminiscent of the drinking establishments that made Havana famous in the 1930s. In the Havana Club Boutique you can choose from the finest Havana Club rums. The boutique also offers a selection of Havana Club bars articles, Cuban cigars and souvenirs.





Sloppy Joe's Bar is a historic bar located in Havana, Cuba. The bar reopened in 2013 after being closed for 48 years. The advent of Prohibition in the United States spurred its original owner, Jose Abeal Otero, to change the emphasis from food service to liquor service when American tourists would visit Havana for the nightlife, the gambling and the alcohol they could not obtain back home. Sloppy Joe's welcomed tourists for over four decades, and offered over 80 cocktails in addition to the bar's own brand of 12-year-old rum. During the 1940s and 1950s it was a magnet for American celebrities as well as tourists wanting to mingle with them. It has been described by the Los Angeles Times as "one of the most famous bars in the world" with "almost the status of a shrine." The Cuban Revolution of 1959 saw the bar's business nosedive, as some 90% of Sloppy Joe's clientele was American. A fire in the 60s closed the establishment for good. The building in which the bar was housed remained intact, resembling a ghost town with its single-piece mahogany bar and photos of celebrities. The slow-paced, extensive restoration, undertaken by The Office of the Historian of Havana, began in 2007. It is located on the corner of Calle Animas and Zulueta in Havana Vieja (Old Havana). The building is located behind (on the same block as) the Plaza Hotel.

The bar, in its heyday, can be seen in the movie *Our Man in Havana* starring Alec Guinness as it is the bar in which the character (Jim Wormold) is attempted to be recruited into the secret service. It supposedly inspired the deli sandwich sold in northern New Jersey for over half a century by the same name, sloppy joe.

Renovation work on Sloppy Joe's was completed in early 2013, and its doors opened to the public on April 12th of that year. The facade closely resembles the images from the 1950s, even down to the sign on the corner, above the arches.



**OLD AUTOMOBILE TOUR | ANTIQUE AMERICAN CARS** Travel back in time as the rest of the night your own personal transportation will be in a 1950's antique American automobile. Enjoy an amazing panoramic views of the city from your classic cars. Engage in a trip along the Malecon as you tour Havana in your way to Tropicana Night Club.





**SUNSET STOP AT HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA FOR COCKTAILS** In the way to Tropicana stop at the legendary HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA for a Cuban Cocktail. The decision to build a luxury hotel was taken in the late 1920s. The American firms McKim, Mead & White and Purdy & Henderson Co., tasked with the planning and construction, completed the palatial edifice in 14 months. The hotel exhibits an eclectic architectural style, reflecting Art Deco, Arabic references, features of Hispano-Moorish architecture, and both neo-classical and neo-colonial elements. There are even details from the centuries-old Californian style. The resulting unique example of so many schools of architecture is the most unusual and interesting hotel in the Caribbean region. The HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA was opened on the night of 30 December 1930. The Hotel Nacional de Cuba is a historic luxury hotel located on the MALECÓN in the middle of VEDADO, Havana, Cuba. It stands on TAGANANA hill a few meters from the sea, and offers a view of Havana Harbor, the seawall and the city. It opened in 1930, when Cuba was a prime travel destination for Americans. In its 80 plus years of existence, the hotel has had many important guests. The hotel was built on the site of the SANTA CLARA BATTERY, which dates back to 1797. Part of the battery has been preserved in the hotel's gardens, including two large coastal guns dating from the late 19th Century.



**DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT SHOW | 1950's HAVANA CUBAN SHOW | TROPICANA NIGHT CLUB**

Arrive at the Cabaret in style, travel back in time as you ride into the gardens of Tropicana. Enjoy drinks and a cabaret show while stepping into the forbidden Havana of the 1950's. Visit Los Arcos de Cristal, the legendary master piece of modern Cuban architecture completed in 1953. *TROPICANA* the world-known cabaret was originally launched in 1939 at Villa Mina, a six-acre suburban estate with lush tropical gardens in Havana's *MARIANAO* neighborhood.





**CHECK OUT** | HOTEL IN LA HABANA

**AIRPORT TRANSFER** | HOTEL TO JOSE MARTI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**AIRPORT CHECK IN** | JOSE MARTI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**DEPART** | LA HABANA - USA