



TJHS MISSION TO CUBA

ITINERARY OUTLINE

October 25 – November 1, 2023

ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE: This day-by-day itinerary should be used as a guide only since program elements are subject to change for reasons beyond our control and activities will be replaced by similar options.

***TJHS is traveling to Cuba pursuant to two federal licenses:
Religious and In Aid of the Cuban People***

Optional Group Air: there are a limited number of seats available for reservation.

October 25, 2023 –United Airlines Flight. 6306, 10:09 AM - 2:30 PM, Depart Houston (IAH), Arrive Havana 2:30 PM.

November 1, 2023 –United Airlines Flight 6307, Depart HAV 3:30 PM, Arrive IAH 6:15 PM

Day 1: Wednesday October 25

- Optional Group Flight: Departs IAH 10:09 AM, Arrives HAV 2:30 PM
- Transfer in AC motor coach to Grand Hotel Aston La Habana
- Check in Grand Hotel Aston.
- History of Jewish Cuba Lecture by Maritza Corrales.
- Welcome Dinner at Paladar Atelier.

Day 2: Thursday October 26

- Breakfast Buffet, Restaurant Vida, Hotel Aston.
- Havana Queens rehearsal, one of the best dance groups in Cuba with youth of Cuba.
- Jewish Cemetery Guanabacoa, outside of Havana, with the first Holocaust Memorial built in the Western Hemisphere.
- Lunch at El Divino.
- *La Finca Vigia*, Hemingway Museum. Hemingway said of Cuba, "it is the best place on earth to write." Among his most famous works written here, *The Old Man and the Sea*.
- El Patronato. Meet with and present donations to Adela Dworin.
- Return to Hotel Aston.
- Dinner on own at your leisure. Enjoy the many wonderful private restaurants in Havana from a list of recommendations and help from your guide. Do not forget to go hear the local music!

Day 3: Friday October 27

- Breakfast Buffet, Restaurant Vida at Hotel Aston.
- Habana Vieja, So important to the Spanish that after its capture by the British, they offered all of Florida in exchange for its return.
- Lunch at local paladar in Old Habana Cha Cha Cha
- Museo de la Revolucion.
- Return to Hotel Aston.
- EL Patronato for services and dinner with the Community. Bus from Hotel.
- Transfer back to Hotel Aston (or walk back with a guide).

Day 4: Saturday October 28

- Breakfast Buffet at Restaurant Vida, Hotel Aston.
- Rum Museum.
- San Jose Craft Market.
- Lunch at local paladar in Old Havana Al Carbon
- Bus will drop off at hotel or other locations for continued touring.
- Dinner and evening on own at leisure. Option: El Tropicana, a popular Cuban music and dancing experience since the 30s. 10:30 pm – 12:30 am. Non-inclusive of tour cost: approximately \$100 per person with drinks.

Day 5: Sunday October 29

- Breakfast Buffet at Restaurant Vida, Hotel Aston.
- Bellas Artes Museum (Cuban collection).
- Callejon de Hammel. Learn about Santeria.
- Lunch at Fuster (if available) or Marea.
- Jose Rodriguez Fuster's home and studio. Visit the Caribbean Picasso. His home is his art. Something very special.
- Optional: Teatro Nacional. 5:00 P.M. Tentative. Sign up when confirmed.
- Dinner at Paladar Vistamar.

Day 6: Monday October 30

- Breakfast Buffet at Restaurant Vida, Hotel Aston.
- Pinar del Rio Provence. Depart by bus to west of Havana.
- Cigar factory.
- Lunch at Finca Paraiso.
- Finca. Visit Benito's tabaco farm.
- Vinales. Walk through old town.
- Return to Hotel Aston, Havana.
- Dinner and evening on own at leisure.

Day 7: Tuesday October 31

- Breakfast Buffet at Restaurant Vida, Hotel Aston.
- Sephardic Center. Talk to group by Sr. Samuel, leader of the Community. Present donations to Center.
- Sephardic–Jewish Life in Cuba. Visit the exhibition, "We Remember".
- Farmer's Market at Calle 17. See how Cubans survive.
- Lunch in a local paladar Café Laurent .
- Angeles del Futuro Circus School. Visit this after-school project.
- Return to Hotel Aston.
- Vintage Car Parade. Experience a ride in the famed colorful enhanced cars of Havana.
- Farewell Dinner at Mansion Castillo.

Day 8: Wednesday November 1

- Breakfast Buffet at Restaurant Vida, Hotel Aston
- Check out and departure to Havana Airport.
- On the way to Airport stop at Rosenberg Park & John Lennon Memorial.
- Optional Group Flight: United Airlines 6307: Depart HAV, 3:30 PM.; Arrive IAH, 6:30 PM.

INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION (in addition to Itinerary)

- 8 days/7 nights in Cuba
- 7 nights accommodations at Grand Hotel Aston, a 5-star hotel
- 18 meals-- 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 4 dinners, including Erev Shabbat services and dinner at El Patronato with community.
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Entrance fees to included sites
- Tips to wait staff at included meals.
- Gratuity to driver and guide (a little extra based on special service is welcomed)
- Porterage – includes tips - Cuban Hotel - in/out
- Bottled water when on the bus
- Airport transfers in Cuba
- Cuban Tourist Visa for non-Cuban-born participants
- Land transportation in Cuba by A/C motor coach
- Health insurance in Cuba – does not cover pre-existing condition.

NOT INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION

- Air Transportation to/from Havana.
- Trip insurance. Strongly recommended.
- Cash Tzedakah – TBD
- Baggage limits: United Airlines rules/charges as to luggage it will control.