

CARROLL COUNTY
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

CUBA

THE NEW BEGINNING

NOVEMBER 1-8, 2015

FROM **\$3,749** AIR & LAND

EIGHT DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS INCLUDING HOTELS, MEALS, DAY TRIPS
AND AIRFARE FROM MIAMI



Referred by:
The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce
Contact: Mike McMullin
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Telephone: (410) 977-3111

 **Central Holidays**TM **WEST**
Since 1972

Member of
Sgi

CUBA – THE NEW BEGINNING

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS **from \$3,749** air & land

(1) MIAMI – (2) CAYO SANTA MARIA - (4) HAVANA



TOUR FEATURES

- **ROUND TRIP AIR TRANSPORTATION** - Round trip airfare from Miami
- **FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS** - 7 nights first class hotels
- **CUISINE** - 15 included meals consisting of 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 3 dinners
- **TOUR PROGRAM** - People to people discussions, interactions and unusual visits such as: the seaside town of Caibarien, the Sugar Mill Museum, the colonial town of Remedios, the Che Guevara Museum and Mausoleum, a Cigar Factory, meetings and visitations with artists, meet a Cuban baseball player, Hemingway's Farm, Old Havana and more...
- **PROFESSIONAL U.S. TOUR DIRECTOR** - Assistance of a professional Central Holidays U.S. Tour Manager
- **PROFESSIONAL CUBAN GUIDE** - Assistance and guiding from a professional specialized bilingual Cuban guide
- **DELUXE MOTORCOACHES** - Touring by private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **PEOPLE TO PEOPLE INTERACTIONS** - There are daily people to people discussions, and interactions on unique Cuban events and issues.
- **BAGGAGE HANDLING AND TRANSFERS** - Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage outside of the airport upon arrival in Cuba
- **VISA** - Cuban travel visa
- **HEALTH INSURANCE** - Cuban health insurance
- **WATER** - Bottled water on the coach each day
- **GRATUITIES** - Pre-paid gratuities for hotel porters, waiters for included meals, all people to people visits, discussions and Interactions.
- **LOCAL TAXES AND SERVICE CHARGES** - Hotel & City taxes and service charges
- **DEPARTURE TAXES** - U.S. air departure taxes

Day 1 Miami Arrive in Miami and transfer to the Miami Airport Hilton on your own. Today in the hotel lobby meet your Central Holidays Representative who will hold a mandatory Cuba orientation meeting where you will receive your final Cuba documentation.

Day 2 Miami – Santa Clara – Cayo Santa Maria, Cuba This morning transfer via private coach to the airport for your flight to Cuba. Departure times will be listed at the Hospitality Desk in the hotel lobby. Upon arrival at Miami International Airport check in for your flight. Upon arrival in Santa Clara, Cuba and after clearing customs at the airport, we'll meet our local Cuban tour guide, an experienced bilingual guide outside the terminal. We will depart for Cayo Santa Maria to check into the Sol Cayo Santa Maria Hotel & Resort for our two night stay. Cayo Santa Maria is surrounded by crystal blue Caribbean waters featuring a rugged interior and has been declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Enjoy dinner this evening at the hotel. (D)

Day 3 Cayo Santa Maria - Caibarien – Remedios - Cayo Santa Maria This morning depart for Caibarien, known as "La Villa Blanca" (The White Town), for an overview of this seaside town before visiting the Printing Museum. Next, enjoy a concert by locals of Caibarien and a chance to interact with them in the town square. Then it's off to the Marcello Salado Sugar Mill Museum. In 2002 the government activated a plan for the reconversion of Cuba's sugar mills. The Ministry of Sugar decided that, of the 156 mills that existed at that time, which five would be converted into museums. Today we visit a shining example of Cuba's sugar industry. Upon arrival enjoy a sugar cane drink before a guided tour of the amazing machines that are used to process sugar cane. Later we take a short Steam Train Ride from the museum to a local restaurant for lunch. After lunch we head to the colonial jewel town of Remedios, founded by the Spanish in 1578. Enjoy a Remedios Walking Tour with a local historian/guide. See the Central Plaza, or "Plaza Mayor", that is surrounded by colonial buildings, beautiful monuments, trees, palms and a gazebo like many towns in Cuba. Next, tour inside the colonial grand church "Iglesia Mayor" of San Juan Bautista containing beautifully decorated gold altars. Afterwards we stroll through the main shopping street to learn the differences between Ration, Cuban Pesos and CUC stores. Explore the complexity of the two-currency system and have the opportunity to talk with Cubans and workers who shop at these stores. Tonight, it's time to dust off your dancing shoes and learn to dance the Salsa with the locals. Enjoy dinner this evening at the hotel. (B,L,D)

Day 4 Cayo Santa Maria - Santa Clara – Havana Following breakfast we'll leave Cayo Santa Maria behind and depart for Havana. Along the way we will stop in Santa Clara, a city most famous because of the history of Cuba's revolution and the massive Che Guevara Memorial, a 25 foot-tall bronze statue of Che bearing his rifle, by sculptor José Delarra. Tour the Che Guevara Museum and see the Mausoleum where his remains are laid to rest. Santa Clara was the site of the last battle in the Cuban Revolution in late 1958. There were two guerrilla columns that attacked the city, one led by Che Guevara and the other led by Camilo Cienfuegos. Che's column first captured the garrison at Fomento. Then, using a bulldozer, Guevara's soldiers destroyed railroad tracks and derailed a train full of troops and supplies sent by President Batista. After lunch we will visit a local liberal arts school and interact with its students and teachers. After the school visit, we continue to Havana. Upon arrival you will enjoy a photo stop at Revolution Square, one of the largest public squares in the world. (B,L)

Day 5 Havana After breakfast you will tour the Museum of the Revolution that displays a vast array of documents, weapons, relics and even planes from the revolution. The museum is housed in the former presidential palace that was the home to Cuba's leaders from the 1920s until 1959. Continuing onwards you will have an educational exchange with a local expert who will speak about Havana's unique architecture, the challenges of renovating the city's exquisite historic buildings, and the future of these restorations. Then, you will explore the charming cobblestone streets of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, while participating in an open dialogue with the local expert on architectural topics of interest. Next, visit the Maqueta Vieja Habana Museum that houses the scale model of the City of Havana to see the whole city, and learn about its architecture as well as more about restoration efforts. Following lunch in Old Havana, Heading out of the city you will enter the realm of Ernest Hemingway with a visit to Hemingway's Farm, Finca La Vigia. The house where the Nobel Prize winner lived with his wife Martha for 21 years is situated on this beautiful property overlooking Havana. Tour the perfectly preserved home where many of Hemingway's personal belongings remain today, as well as his wooden yacht "Pilar." On this vessel, Hemmingway patrolled for Nazis and it was also featured in his novel "Islands in the Stream." Before dinner, meet a former Cuban baseball player and join in a dialogue regarding the history and the love of this favorite pastime in Cuba. This evening, enjoy your dinner at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

Day 6 Havana – Viñales - Pinar Del Rio – Havana Today you will venture northwest out of Havana through the Cuban countryside to the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Viñales Valley, located in Cuba's western most mountainous range. This region, situated in the province of Pinar Del Río, is known for its breathtaking scenery. The area is dotted with spectacular limestone mountains (mogotes) rising to a height of up to 300 meters. Here you will gaze upon spectacular caverns and rivers and discover the region's vast tobacco fields, still cultivated today using traditional methods that have survived unchanged for centuries. In Pinar Del Río you will tour the Franciso Donatien Cigar Factory to learn about the manufacturing of fine Cuban cigars and enjoy an educational exchange with workers about the history and process of cigar-making in Cuba. As your day continues, you will visit a traditional tobacco plantation and farmhouse where you will get to know an authentic tobacco farmer. During this enlightening interaction you will learn about tobacco cultivation and the tobacco leaf drying process then experience a cigar rolling demonstration firsthand. Enjoy a visit inside the farmer's home and have a sit-down with his family while sipping on a "cafecito" – a sweetened shot of Cuban-style espresso coffee. This is a superb opportunity to witness up-close how Cuban families live in a rural setting. After this exciting encounter, a stop at Los Jasmynes viewpoint offers the ideal photo-op with its awe-inspiring views of Viñales Valley, perfect for panoramic pictures of this splendidly beautiful region. (B,L)

Day 7 Havana - Matanzas – Havana Today's activities begin after breakfast with an introductory exploration of the world of art in Cuba as you delve-into the National Museum of Fine Arts in Havana. Housed in its current location since 1954, the museum boasts an impressive collection of artwork from painters dating back to the earliest colonizers of Cuba. Here you will meet with a Cuban art expert and a local historian for a



presentation on the importance of the artistic pieces housed in this spectacular museum. Next along your journey, you will travel through rural Cuba and arrive in Matanzas, known as "the Venice of Cuba" for its many bridges. Enjoy a city tour where your guide will provide insight into the city's rich history. Tour the well-preserved El Museo Farmaceútico, an old French Colonial pharmacy formerly known as Botica La Francesa that was originally founded 1882. It was operational until 1964 when it was transformed into The Museo Farmaceútico. Time has remained still here where many of the items that would have been found in a pharmacy during that time period still line the shelves, such as: hand painted French porcelain vases, more than 500,000 original medical recipe formulas, antique bottles and jars, other seemingly ancient pharmaceutical items. During an illuminating tour you will discover the museum's interesting exhibits and collections including, a prizewinning dispensary table (winner of a bronze medal in the Paris Exposition of 1900), together with tools used for the production of medicines. Next, you will enjoy a brief architectural tour of the famous DuPont Mansion including lunch. Further along you will experience a pottery-making demonstration at the Taller de Cerámica Artística (artistic ceramics workshop) and interact with artists to learn about this art form. A stop is made at Bacunayagua Bridge, the highest bridge in Cuba with an observation area offering excellent views for photos. (B,L)

Day 8 Depart Havana – USA After breakfast, bid "adios" to Cuba and depart for the airport and your return flight to Miami with memories to cherish and share of your Discover Cuba trip to this enchanting country in the Caribbean. (B)

TOUR PRICE

Tour price is **\$3,749** per person, double occupancy.

For single occupancy, add \$499.

Fuel surcharges and air taxes are valid at the time of printing but are subject to change.

This itinerary provides a full time schedule of activities that result in meaningful exchanges through people-to-people contact. U.S law requires all travelers joining this program adhere to the full time schedule and imposes on Central Holidays the responsibility to ensure such observance. The hotels, itinerary, inclusions and people to people visits are subject to change. There is a Cuban \$25 per person departure tax that is not included.

HOTELS (OR SIMILAR)	
Hotels	City
Hilton Miami International Airport Hotel	Miami
Cayo Santa Maria Hotel & Resort	Cayo Santa Maria
Melia Cohiba	Havana

CARROLL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

November 1-8, 2015

Group
Booking #: **B001903**

PLEASE PRINT— NAMES MUST BE LISTED AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR PASSPORT

To register for this trip, please complete the form below and e-mail it with a clear copy of your passport information page to Mike McMullin at mmcmullin@carrollcountychamber.org or fax to (410) 876-1023

Passenger 1: _____ Date of Birth: _____ M / F
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Passport#: _____ Country of Issue: _____ Date issued: _____ Expiration date: _____

Passenger 2: _____ Date of Birth: _____ M / F
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Passport#: _____ Country of Issue: _____ Date issued: _____ Expiration date: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Home Ph#: _____ Business/Cell Ph#: _____

☐ Yes Please reserve me in a single room (limited availability)

Notes: _____

TRAVEL PROTECTION:

I want Trip Cancellation & Interruption Insurance: ☐ Yes ☐ No.

The policy price is based on the total cost of the tour, including taxes. Insurance premium for trips \$3,001 to \$4,000 per person is: \$269, for trips \$4,001 to \$5,000 per person is: \$339 (The premium is calculated on base program and any optional tours)

Central Holidays strongly recommends protecting your investment with our optional travel insurance. The premium must be paid with your initial deposit or within 15 days of your initial deposit/payment for your trip to qualify for the preexisting conditions policy. The policy (without preexisting conditions) can be purchased all the way to final payment but not afterwards.

For a full disclosure of coverage, terms and conditions of our travel protection plan please visit: <http://www.tripmate.com/wpF497V>

PAYMENT METHOD & REQUIREMENTS:

Deposit: \$500 per person at the time of registration, plus optional travel insurance. I am including payment for _____ people.

Reservations are on a first come first served basis. Please sign up early to secure your place.

Final payment is due: 90 days before departure

Checks: Make checks payable to Central Holidays and send to: Carroll County Chamber of Commerce - 9 East Main Street, Suite 105, Westminster, MD 21157

Credit Card: ☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex

Credit Card# _____ Security code#: _____ Exp. date: _____

Name that appears on the card: _____ Signature: _____

I authorize \$ _____ to be charged to my card (including optional insurance premium if applicable).

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Cancellations more than 75 days prior to departure 10% of total price per person price is retained. (or a minimum of \$325 per person)

Cancellations between 74-45 days prior to the departure - 25% of total per person price is retained.

Cancellations between 44-31 days prior to the departure - 50% of total per person price is retained.

Cancellations 30 days or less prior to the departure/no shows - No refunds.

Note: A person becoming a single as a result in the roommate's cancellation must pay the single supplement.

I have read the schedule of activities for the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce in Cuba- The New Beginning program - November 1-8, 2015 and accept the terms and conditions outlined on our website www.centralholidayswest.com/terms

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CST#211307450