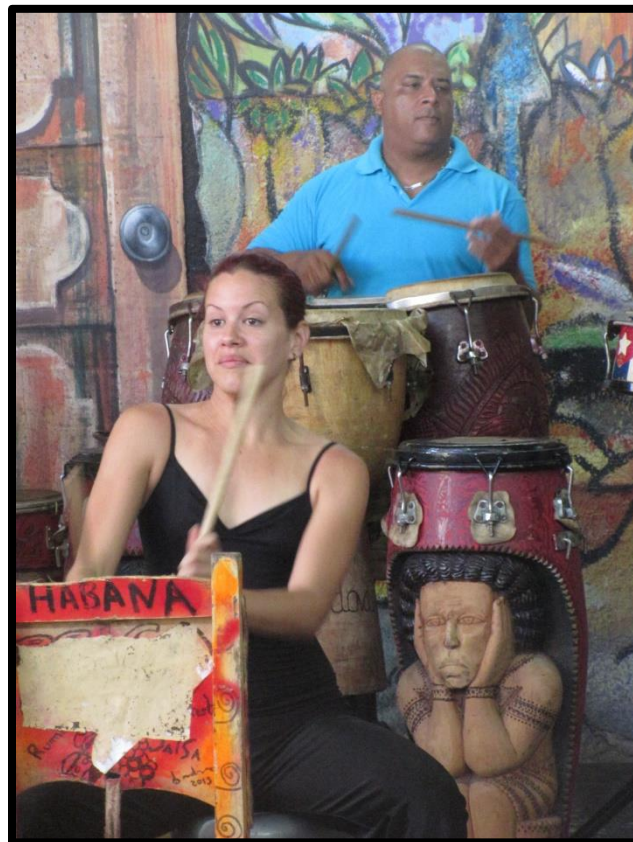




**Faces of Cuba...Jazz and more  
January 17-21, 2018**

*Embark on a journey back in time...  
An in-depth exploration of music, art, history and culture  
Immerse yourself in cars, cigars, cuisine and Cuban Jazz over the  
international Jazz festival.  
Hear the horns of Cuba ...only 90 miles away!*



**Cuba in the midst of change...  
Hear the sounds of Havana with an all access pass to the festival  
See the Cuba that has remained frozen in time with the rhythm  
While you still can!**

*Let our experience...Make your experience*

# Itinerary

## Day 1, Arrival in Havana (D)

- Today you arrive in Havana on a new commercial flight from the US. As the group will be arriving at different times and at different terminals, you will take a taxi to the hotel. If it is an early arrival, leave your bags with the hotel and start your adventure with a walk to acclimate yourself to the area.
- We will officially begin the trip with a welcome cocktail at 6:30 pm.
- Now off to dinner at one of Cuba's most well-known restaurants where you will have your first taste of Cuba
- You will have an all access pass to the festival and tonight you will have your choice of venues ( taxis on your own)

## Day 2, Havana (B,L,D)

- After breakfast at the hotel, we will make our way to one of Cuba's most famous exports- a Cigar Factory. Here you will see the art of making some of the world's most coveted brands – Cohiba, Partagas, Romeo and Juliet.
- Next we'll stop at Plaza de Revolucion which is where you see the familiar iconic silhouette of Che Guevarra and where the "bearded one" made his famously long speeches from this largest square in Cuba. It was also where his recent memorial service was held. A great spot for a group photo.
- Continuing on we spend the rest of the morning in Old Havana – a UNESCO Heritage site which dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century where you will witness the greatest wealth of Spanish colonial architecture in the western hemisphere. Here we will stop at many local sites to have the opportunity to interact with Cubans when we visit Plaza de Armas and the Plaza de la Cathedral. Here we will stop in a graphics workshop one of the oldest and most important on the island.
- Our included lunch will introduce you to private businesses in Cuba. We will take you to a paladar... owned by a Cuban entrepreneur. These establishments have raised the bar on gastronomy in Cuba and yes... you could even say Cuba could be the next foodie destination!
- Next is Museo de la Revolution. Learn about history of Cuban political development from the Cuban perspective. This fascinating visit houses the most complete exhibit of revolutionary history including the Granma Memorial, the vessel that brought Fidel Castro, Che Guevara, and other revolutionaries from Mexico to Cuba in 1956 earning about their life and culture during these morning's interactions.
- Ever wondered what the Hotel Nacional de Cuba reminds you of? It is the sister hotel to the Breakers in Palm Beach built by the same architects McKim, Mead and

White. We will visit this historic hotel perched above the famous Malecon and learn about the role it played during the days of the Mafia in Cuba.

- Tonight dinner is at a Paladar- and OCJ knows the best! After dinner you will again have the opportunity to use your all access pass to hear some of the world's finest.

### **Day 3, Havana (B,L)**

- After breakfast at hotel we will get our Cuban groove on when we admire the steps and sounds of one of Cuba's private dance troupes. The mixture of many different sounds and instruments will be sure to have your feet a stomping!
- Now that we are in an artistic mood, Casa-Estudio de Fuster in Jaiminitas is next in line. This is the studio-home of Jose Fuster, commonly called the 'Picasso of the Caribbean. Explore the unique studio, property, and neighborhood whose homes are adorned with Fuster's ceramics
- A visit to an agri-market will teach you about the dual currency system on the island along with an opportunity to take great photos!
- After an included lunch we will continue at what is considered the 4<sup>th</sup> most important cemetery in the world – once there you will find out why.
- Searching for the Sun community project involves teaching the craft of jewelry making. We will have the opportunity to visit the workshop and also have the chance to support this project in the gallery.
- Dinner is NOT included; this is a great chance to explore on your own and possibly take in the world famous Tropicana or the new hip and trendy art, music and drink venue known as FAC (Fabric de Arte Cubano) unless you want another night of Jazz.

### **Day 4, Havana (B,D)**

- After breakfast we will head to the east of Havana to the municipality of Guanabacoa and the Morro Fortress. This fortress is perched high above the entrance to the Havana Bay and view of the city from this vantage point is stupendous!
- A walk down the Malecon of Cojimar, a village where Hemingway kept his famous Pilar, before we continue on to Finca Vigia, Hemingway's home in Cuba. We will hear about the Cuban perspective on Hemingway, his associations with the island, and the difficulties of restoring and maintaining his former home which is now a museum. It was Hemingway himself who proclaimed that Cuba was his real home.
- Next venture is Callejon de Hamel, where this Santeria inspired art alley comes alive. Artist Salvador Gonzalez, the world renowned artist painted life size murals on this fascinating street which you will visit to learn about Afro-Cuban culture and its rituals. Certain days of the week a live rumba takes place...if we are lucky we will have a chance to experience this!
- Lunch is not included today so that you have time on your own.

- Our last group activity is the crafts market where private enterprise began in Cuba. Talk to the shop owners and tell them about private enterprise in USA!. You will have time to visit the last places in Havana that are of interest to you. We can set up meetings at high end galleries if art is your forte, walk on the streets of Old Havana and interact with Cubans, or use this time to work on your photography skills, etc.
- Tonight our farewell dinner is included at one of OCJ's favorite paladars; enjoy this last supper with your guide and say a toast to your Cuban experience.

### **Day 5, Havana (B)**

- Breakfast and then as time allows see sites or transfer to airport
- Say goodbye to your new friends and take home a little piece of Cuba in your Heart!

*Trip itineraries are subject to change due to factors outside of our control but if any changes need to take place, we will substitute with something just as interesting!!! Take note that the above itinerary is a sample of what your journey will entail. Due to new policy changes in US please practice the art of flexibility.*

### **Your trip includes:**

- Casa or hotel accommodations in Cuba
- Meals of 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 3 dinners
- All access pass to the Cuban Jazz festival
- Opportunity to try privately owned Paladars and sample some of the best cuisine of Cuba, recommended by OCJ – we know the best!
- Land transportation in Cuba by a driver with many years of service
- Services of an experienced Cuban, English speaking professional guide/driver who is very well versed and is willing to share knowledge on Cuban community, politics, education, medical system, arts, economics, etc.
- Group leader who will oversee trip in Cuba
- Entrance fees to the important cultural and historic sites

### **Not included:**

- Trip cancellation insurance – highly recommended. Cancellation for any reason prior to trip can cause you to lose all money paid.
- Tips for driver/guide (*SUGGESTED IS \$100 PER PERSON*)
- Gratuities to wait staff ,bellboys or step on guides
- Excess baggage charges
- Commercial flights from your cities and visas (airlines will provide)

**4 NIGHT Pricing:** *Please be aware that the prices are subject to change due to new US travel policy.*

Casa Particulars (private home stay)

**Per person in a casa particular from:**

4-6 travelers ..... \$3300  
7-8 travelers ..... \$3100  
Single supplement..... \$400

**Per person double occupancy from:** (Depending on **hotel** availability)

4-6 travelers - .....\$3600 - 4300  
7-8 travelers - .....\$3300 - 4100  
Single supplement.....\$ 700

*This trip is limited in size.*