HARVARD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
2017 WORLDWIDE TRAVEL PROGRAM

TRAVELS 2017

CUBA BY LAND & SEA
ON VARIETY VOYAGER
Santiago de Cuba to Cienfuegos with two nights in Havana

WITH JONATHAN HANSEN

February 18-27, 2017
SEE CUBA FROM A UNIQUE VANTAGE POINT—BY SEA—ON A BRAND-NEW CRUISE ALONG THE ISLAND’S LESS-DEVELOPED SOUTHERN SHORE, with its rugged mountains, pristine beaches, and well-preserved colonial architecture. Begin in Santiago, Cuba’s second-largest city and the birthplace of salsa, son, and many revolutionary movements. Visit the hilltop pilgrimage church dedicated to the country’s patron saint before embarking Variety Voyager for seven nights. With just 36 cabins, this privately chartered yacht is the perfect conveyance for exploring this charismatic Caribbean nation. Cruise west to UNESCO-listed Trinidad, Cuba’s most charming colonial town, and explore the nearby Valley of the Sugar Mills, where untold fortunes were made—and lost. Conclude in Cienfuegos, a southern city with French flair that has also been recognized by UNESCO. Along the way, art studio tours, private performances, and other exclusive events will add to the pleasures of our voyage.
Tuesday, February 21
TRINIDAD
¡Bienvenidos a Trinidad!
With its cobblestone streets and candy-colored houses, this UNESCO-recognized town is one of the prettiest colonial cities in the Americas. Stroll past its elegant plazas and palaces on a guided architectural tour, and chat with a local entrepreneur. Lunch is at a paladar, one of the many privately owned restaurants on Cuba’s culinary scene. Afterwards, meet local artists and artisans in their studios and learn about Santería, the Afro-Cuban religion combining Yoruba and Roman Catholic beliefs. You may wish to explore this theme further during independent time today.

Wednesday, February 22
TRINIDAD
Culture or nature? It’s up to you. This morning choose an architectural tour of the charming colonial town of

Cienfuegos, photo by Jane-Sweeney (left), Port of Cisilda, photo by Simon Bordwin (right)
Tomás Terry Theater on a guided architectural walk that concludes with lunch at a *paladar*. Then discover the internationally recognized Cienfuegos Botanical Garden, originally founded by an American sugar baron; or visit a historic cigar factory to learn about the importance of tobacco to the Cuban economy. Enjoy a private performance of the world-renowned choir Cantores de Cienfuegos. 

**B, L, D**

**Saturday, February 25**

**CIEFUEGOS / HAVANA**

Disembark this morning to board a private motorcoach to Havana. Enjoy an orientation tour of the city and lunch at a local *paladar* before checking in at the five-star Meliá Cohiba. Visit the hilltop village where Ernest Hemingway lived for 20 years; his surprisingly contemporary estate, preserved just as he left it, features original furniture, artwork, and personal memorabilia. You may wish to join an optional tour of Papa’s favorite Havana haunts this evening. 

**B, L, D**

**Sunday, February 26**

**HAVANA**

A morning lecture by an architectural historian examines Havana’s past through her buildings, and a walking tour through Old Havana brings history to life. Admire the many colonial buildings that have been restored to wedding-cake splendor before pausing for lunch near the cathedral. Meet leading artists in their homes and studios, where there may be opportunities to purchase paintings and drawings. Conclude your Cuba experience with a special evening at the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts, where the Foundation’s president will host a cocktail reception and dinner on the penthouse terrace.

**B, L, D**

**Monday, February 27**

**HAVANA / U.S.A.**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your independently booked flight home. 

**B**

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Sancti Spíritus, founded by the conquistador Diego Velázquez in 1514, or a hike through Topes de Collantes. This nature reserve park harbors wild banana trees, dozens of indigenous orchid species, unique hummingbirds, and other exotic plants and animals. Wander the trails and refresh yourself in one of the park’s spectacular waterfalls. After lunch, visit the Valley of the Sugar Mills, former center of Cuba’s lucrative sugar industry. Climb Manaca Iznaga Tower, famous for its amazing views of the valley. This evening enjoy a performance of local music.

**B, L, D**

**Thursday – Friday, February 23-24**

**CIEFUEGOS**

Devote two days to this alluring, UNESCO-listed city, founded by the French and nicknamed “The Pearl of the South.” Admire the magnificent, 19th-century...
SCHEDULE BY DAY

national hero José Martí, Lady of Charity, a hilltop welcome dinner onboard. Tonight enjoy a that is the oldest house capital. Settle in aboard D
officials to dock at Santa Cuban artists. Manuel, and other well-known Agramonte Museum, housing God, and see the beautifully to have been designed to ward
Monday, February 20 be arranged tonight for musicians, and optional mus

TRINIDAD charming colonial town of, Santería on Cuba's culinary scene. With its cobblestone streets
Monday, February 27

Owner’s Suite, double bed

* Cabins are available for single occupancy at a supplement of 25 % to 100% of the cruise rate.

TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS All cancellations must be made in writing to HAA Travels and are subject to a $350 nonrefundable administrative fee. Cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure will be charged a fee in the amount of 20 percent of the program cost per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of HAA Travels and the tour operator. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfare, and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure printing and are subject to change. While the tour operator will do everything possible to maintain the published trip, the tour operator will do everything possible to maintain the published trip.

TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS International airfare; passport fees; Cuban visa; Cuban departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); personal items and expenses; airport / pier transfers for those not on suggested group flights; baggage in excess of one suitcase; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENT To reserve your space on this program, a $1,000 deposit is required per person. Please either call us at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806, or fill out and mail or fax the registration form. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Your final payment is due 120 days before departure.

A NOTE ON AIR TRAVEL TO CUBA At the time of brochure printing in June 2016, commercial flight schedules between the US and Cuba had not been confirmed. Please contact our office for the most up to date information on air travel to Cuba.

AIRFARE Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements for this program, including specially negotiated group airfare when available, suggested flights, or individual requests, for a processing fee of $40 per person. Complete details will be provided in your confirmation mailing.
SCHEDULE BY DAY

VARIETY VOYAGER

Drive to the Basilica of Our Santiago
Sunday, February 19
welcome dinner onboard.

Museum, a colonial mansion remains docked overnight.

, which

Cruz del Sur.

change, as we are awaiting God, and see the beautifully

Site known as “the city of a UNESCO World Heritage

drive to nearby Camagüey,

Step ashore in the fishing you. This morning choose

time today.

further during independent

the Afro-Cuban religion and artisans in their studios

privately owned restaurants

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TRINIDAD

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Devote two days to this

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Thursday – Friday,

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valley. This evening enjoy a

Sugar Mills, former center

Wander the trails and refresh

harbors wild banana trees,

Morro Castle, Havana 20 years; his surprisingly

before checking in at the

paladar

the world-renowned choir

a private performance of

or visit a historic cigar

by an American sugar baron;

Garden, originally founded

a

B, L, D

of Papa’s favorite Havana

lunch near the cathedral.

Havana brings history to life.

a walking tour through Old

examines Havana’s past

architectural historian

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JONATHAN HANSEN is Senior Lecturer on Social Studies and Faculty Associate, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. An intellectual historian, he is the author of The Lost Promise of Patriotism: Debating American Identity, 1890-1920 (Chicago, 2003) and Guantanamo: An American History (Hill and Wang, 2011), along with articles, op-eds, and book reviews on U.S. imperialism, nationalism, cosmopolitanism, and race and ethnicity. He is currently working on a biography of Fidel Castro (YOUNG CASTRO, to be published by Simon & Schuster), which takes him often to Cuba.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enrichment series of lectures with Jonathan Hansen, intellectual historian
- Spend seven nights aboard the intimate Variety Voyager, a privately chartered yacht accommodating just 72 guests
- Cruise Cuba’s less-developed southern shore, with its rugged mountains, pristine beaches, and well-preserved colonial architecture
- Engage with artists, musicians, entrepreneurs, and other welcoming locals
- Stay overnight in Santiago, a city steeped in history whose cultural scene rivals Havana’s
- Experience the French flavor of Cienfuegos and stroll the streets of lost-in-time Trinidad
- Delight in the soaring voices of a
FOR DETAILED ITINERARIES, VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL

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Topes de Collantes, Trinidad, photo by cvan (top), José Martí memorial, Santiago, photo by Richard IJzermans (above)