



Family Service Trip to **HAVANA, CUBA**

February 15-22, 2014

Cost: \$3750 per person*

(Includes: airfare, lodging in 3 star hotels and local guesthouses, local transportation, travel insurance, and 2 meals a day)

WHY JOIN US?

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to conduct a people to people intercultural exchange in Havana, Cuba. We'll work alongside the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the People (ICAP) and learn about the history and struggles of the Cuban people. We'll have plenty of time to meet the local people and conduct a smaller volunteer project while in Havana.

Service Trip includes:

- Legal entry into Cuba with a People to People license. All paperwork handled by Global Exchange.
- Pre-trip orientation and community building activities.
- Local Cuban guides, and Craig Dreves, who speaks Spanish fluently.
- Volunteer with ICAP (a grassroots, local, non-profit organization).
- A guided tour of the historic center of old Havana and opportunities to explore the city.
- Meetings with local block organizations and a visit to the Che Guevara mausoleum
- Excursions to Santa Clara and the Escambray Mountains for hiking, swimming, and a campesino lunch.
- A hands-on experience in agriculture, and a visit to an art school and youth club
- A festive Cuban dinner.
- One travel guide & photo book memento of the trip per family, as well as a VolunTravel T-shirt customized to the group (per person).

Open to all interested families / individuals / couples.

(This trip is family friendly and open to children 10 years old and older.

Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by a parent.)

**estimated cost dependent upon airfare, fuel surcharges and government taxes at time of full payment.
Note that VolunTravel is not affiliated with the Rye City School District.*



Flights: To Be Determined

We will probably be flying to Cancun for an overnight stay and then to Havana the following morning.

Want More Information?

Check out these websites:

- <http://www.globalexchange.org/country/cuba> - Global Exchange (our partner organization handling travel arrangements and license to travel to Cuba)
- <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/cuba> - Lonely Planet Guide to Cuba
- <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/cuba/havana> - Travel Guide to Havana (with video)
- http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1097.html - Department of State Info on Cuba
- <http://mentalfloss.com/article/50005/how-can-us-citizens-legally-travel-cuba> - Information on LEGAL travel to Cuba with reference to Beyonce...

Helpful Literature:

- Lonely Planet Cuba (Country Travel Guide) (Paperback – Nov. 1, 2011)
- Moon Cuba (Moon Handbooks) by Christopher P. Baker (Paperback – Oct. 26, 2010)
- The Rough Guide to Havana (Rough Guides) by Fiona McAuslan (Jan 4, 2010)
- Teach Yourself Spanish (NTC Publishing)

Benefits of Traveling with VolunTravel

- Community service hours are awarded for participation in projects (approximately 25-30 hours)
- Service learning experience - students are educated on the culture, the struggles of the local people, and the needs of the volunteer site, all while being immersed in the local language.
 - Potential for fundraising experience through letter writing campaigns, etc.

Please note: VolunTravel is a federal and state tax exempt non-profit organization under IRS regulations 501c3. You will be provided with a receipt for payment of program expenses, along with our tax exemption number, once your trip is paid in full. Some of the trip expenses may be tax deductible, but **please consult a certified accountant for further information.**

NOTES



**Customized Reality Tour
Agreement for Global Exchange And VolunTravel**

**CUBA 2014: CREATING UNDERSTANDING BEYOND BORDERS
A People to People Experience
February 15 - 22, 2014**

1. Sponsoring organization

Global Exchange (GX)

2017 Mission St. #303

San Francisco, 94110

415-255-7296

Fax: 415-255-7498

Contact person

Leslie Balog

Co-sponsoring organization

VolunTravel, Inc.

325 Milton Rd

Rye, NY 10580

[Tel :914-646-2906](tel:914-646-2906)

Cosponsoring contacts

Emily Hurd, Craig Dreves

Purpose of the tour

For the purposes of this contract a tentative tour itinerary is presented below. After the contract is signed the Global Exchange Cuba Program Coordinator will work with the co-sponsoring organization to tailor the program to fit the particular interests and requirements of the group (as available) and thereafter provide you with a confirmed trip itinerary about 30 days before the departure date.

The following itinerary is subject to change, depending on availability and/or program scheduling. Last minute additions and changes can be forwarded but not guaranteed.

This program is meant to complement the purpose and educational objectives of Voluntravel which is to encourage understanding and appreciation of other cultures. Participants will examine Cuba's successes and challenges through meeting the people and grassroots organizations.

Proposed Itinerary - February 15 – 22, 2014

7 nights, 8 days (10- 21 pax)

People to People license

Program is subject to change

Day 1- Saturday, Feb 15/ Havana (Lunch or Dinner depending on arrival time)

- Flight arrives in Havana
- Lunch (depending on arrival time)
- City Tour in bus or on bicycles
- Check-in, Hotel Habana Paseo
- Orientation meeting at hotel
- Dinner together and time for cultural activities

Day 2- Sunday, Feb 16/ Havana (Breakfast and Lunch)

- Breakfast in hotel
- 10:00 am - Overview of history and architecture of Havana by distinguished architect, urban planner.
- Guided walk through the historic center of Old Havana
- Lunch at La Taberna, included (traditional Cuban music and dancing)
- Evening for optional cultural activities
- Dinner on your own

Day 3- Monday, Feb 17/ Havana (Breakfast and Dinner)

- Breakfast in hotel
- 9:30 am - meeting with Cuban Institute for Friendship with the People (ICAP), your hosts in Cuba. Learn about the case of the Cuban Five and about the dispersal of humanitarian aid in Cuba.
- 11:00 am - visit the city's largest urban garden (Alamar) and have a fresh, organic lunch there (10 cucs)
- Visit Community Art Project – Muraleando
- Dinner at La Divina Pastora, overlooking the entrance to the bay and Havana
- 9 pm - Canonazo colonial ceremony symbolically closing the port each night to protect it from pirate raids.

Day 4- Tuesday, Feb 18/ Santa Clara (Breakfast and Lunch)

- Breakfast in hotel
- 9:00 am - depart for Santa Clara, Villa Clara province
- Lunch on the way on your own
- Visit Che Guevara mausoleum and memorial
- Visit with Villa Clara ICAP and check into the ICAP guesthouse
- Dinner at guesthouse

- 9:00 pm - Meeting with local block organization, Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, get to know Cubans in their neighborhood.
- Dinner on your own

Day 5- Wednesday, Feb 19/ Santa Clara (Breakfast and Lunch)

- 7:00 am - Breakfast in guest house
- 8:00 am - Hands on experience in Agriculture
- 12:30 Lunch TBA
- 2:00 pm Visit an art school
- Dinner on your own in Santa Clara
- Evening - Visit to Casa de Cultura

Day 6- Thursday, Feb 20/ Santa Clara (Breakfast and Lunch)

- Breakfast in Guesthouse
- Morning Excursion to Escambray Mountains, hiking, swimming
- Campesino lunch at El Nicho park
- Return to Santa Clara
- Dinner on your own
- 9:00 pm - Visit Santa Clara youth club, El Menjunje

Day 7, Friday, Feb 21/ Return to Havana (Breakfast and Lunch)

- Breakfast in Guesthouse
- Return to Havana (approximately 3 hours)
- Lunch on your own
- Afternoon free in Havana
- 4 pm - Check in to Hotel Habana Paseo
- 7:00 pm - Wrap-up meeting
- 8:00 pm - Farewell Dinner

Day 8, Saturday, Feb 22

- Check in at airport
- Flight to the U.S or Mexico and then US

Single rooms are available for an additional \$300.00

Price *includes*:

- All confirmations in the program.
- Double room accommodations in 3 star hotel and guesthouses. Two meals a day.
- Transportation by private, air-conditioned motor coach as well as transfers for group as appropriate.
- Global Exchange trip representative to accompany the group from Havana through the whole touring period and/or English speaking, tour guide(s) to accompany the group throughout the touring period.
- Preparatory reading materials.
- Admission and fees to museums and program activities.
- Honoraria for speakers
- Luggage transfer (at owner's risk throughout). Baggage allowance is two checked baggage with linear dimensions totaling 55" (the sum of the three dimensions), providing all pieces do not exceed 44 pounds. 1 hand luggage (also weighed in Miami) piece is allowed and is the responsibility of the passenger throughout.

Cubana from Cancun: 66lbs free.

*Not Included in the price is the following:***

- Expenses of a purely personal nature.
- Room service charges.
- Transportation of luggage in excess of weight allowance.
- Conveyance fees used for private purposes.
- Gratuities to the bellmen and waiters.
- Cuban airport taxes (the Cuban departure tax \$25 cucs).
- Extra Beverages

The price herein contained may be subject to increase by reason of an external event or set of circumstances not reasonably foreseen when the contract was agreed and beyond the control of Global Exchange. Such circumstances may include but are not limited to unannounced airplane ticket price rises, which affect travel or availability of travel to the host country.

Licensing and US Travel Restriction to Cuba

Global Exchange is a licensed Travel Service Provider by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the US Treasury Department. Global Exchange facilitates legal travel to Cuba for groups with their own specific license or for individuals who fall under the general license category of OFAC.