



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES

410 North 21st Street • Colorado Springs, CO 80904 • (719) 636-1100 • Fax (719) 636-1993

AAFS International Educational Outreach Program (IEOP) 2018
Destination: Cuba
May 23-27, 2018



About Cuba

<http://www.cuba.com>

Often called *El Caiman* or *El Cocodrilo* (Spanish for alligator), which is what the island looks like from an aerial view, Cuba is a long, narrow island in the Caribbean. It has sugar-white beaches and is dotted with tobacco fields, which play a part in the production of the country's legendary cigars. The capital, Havana, is lined with pastel houses, 1950s-era cars and Spanish-colonial architecture in the 16th-century core, Old Havana. Salsa music plays in the dance clubs and cabaret shows are performed at the famed Tropicana.

The landscape ranges from semi-desert lands to tropical rainforests. Biodiversity is high and its various ecosystems are well preserved. It has a moderate subtropical climate with a predominance of warm temperatures. There are two main seasons: rainy, from May to October, and dry, from November to April. The main air temperature is 75°F and the annual relative humidity is 78%.

The official language is Spanish.

Cuba has one of the most diverse populations in the world. It has more than 11,217,000 inhabitants, 75% of which live in urban areas, the most populated cities being the City of Havana (2,198,000), Santiago de Cuba (1,023,000) and Holguín (1,021,000).



ITINERARY

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Arrive **Havana**, Cuba

José Martí International Airport <http://cubahavanaairport.com>

Upon arrival travellers will make their way to the Hotel Nacional de Cuba.

Accommodation

Hotel Nacional de Cuba

Calle 21 y O, Vedado, Plaza

Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

<http://www.hotelnacionaldecuba.com>

Havana

Havana is Cuba's capital city. Spanish colonial architecture in its 16th-century Old Havana core includes the Castillo de la Real Fuerza, a fort and maritime museum. The National Capitol Building is an iconic 1920s landmark. Also in Old Havana is the baroque Catedral de San Cristóbal and Plaza Vieja, whose buildings reflect the city's vibrant architectural mix.



5:30 pm Walking tour of the Old City

Wander through the **Plaza de Armas**, a scenic tree-lined plaza formerly at the center of influence in Cuba. It is surrounded by many of the most historic structures in Havana as well as important monuments. See the **Plaza de San Francisco**, a cobbled plaza surrounded by buildings dating from the 18th century, dominated by the baroque Iglesia and Convento de San Francisco dating from 1719. Visit the **Plaza Vieja**, surrounded by sumptuous houses of the Havana aristocracy from the 18th and 19th centuries. Visit **Plaza de la Catedral de San Cristóbal de La Habana**.

7:30 pm Dinner at Doña Eutimia paladar

Famous for its *ropa vieja* and frozen mojitos, this cozy paladar made Newsweek Magazine's top 100 restaurants in the world in 2012. The restaurant's location in the beautiful cathedral square is unbeatable.

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Breakfast in the Hotel Nacional de Cuba

8:45 am Departure by bus

9:00 am University of Havana

The country's oldest and most prestigious university, where we will receive a tour of the grounds, the Aula Magna and other important buildings.

11:00 am Latin American Medical School (ELAM)

Tour the ELAM, where Cuba trains thousands of doctors from all over the world.

1:00 pm Lunch at El Aljibe

El Aljibe is a government-run restaurant famous for its black beans, baked chicken and large family style portions.

3:00 pm Visit to the Museum of the Revolution

You will see hundreds of artifacts from pre- and post-revolutionary times that highlights the tense relationship between the U.S. and Cuba.

6:00 pm Cocktails at AltaMira loft

Here we will discuss Cuban art with family of artists and photographers. A few years ago, Edel Bordón and his family embarked on a journey to establish an art collective in their apartment building. Spearheaded by his wife Yamilé Pardo, the family created the **AltaMira art space**, which features an exhibition and workspace off the main lobby, collaborations with neighbors who rent rooms, and their penthouse apartment, where they receive guests and artists from all over the world.

7:30 pm Dinner at Paladar San Cristobal

Located in the heart of Central Havana, this paladar has a reputation of excellence in both atmosphere and local cuisine. Enjoy great food while the locals take you back to the 1940s and 50s.

Friday, May 25, 2018

9:00 am The Role of Forensic Science in the Legal System in Cuba

Morning presentation by Cuba experts, followed by a tour of a Cuban courthouse.

12:30 pm Lunch at Paladar Atelier

This restaurant is equally known for its atmosphere and exquisite cuisine. The lighting and textures of the house, which was home to a pre-revolutionary senator, coupled with walls adorned in modern art, create a cozy but modern setting. We will be joined by **Cuban forensic scientists**.

2:30 pm Visit to Forensic Laboratories

4:00 pm Visit to the arts and crafts market in Old Havana

The largest handcraft market, La Feria de San Jose features hundreds of artisans selling art, crafts, clothes and music.

Saturday, May 26, 2018

Morning: Scientist-to-Scientist Meetings by Discipline. At Hotel Nacional.

Scientific Meeting Part 1: Multidisciplinary Presentations – AAFS Disciplines. At Hotel Nacional.

3:00 pm Visit to La Finca Vigía

Formerly the home of Ernest Hemingway, today it still houses his expansive collection of books. It was here where he wrote two of his most celebrated novels: *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Old Man and the Sea*. The beautiful grounds and bizarre tales from Hemingway's many years in Cuba are captivating.

5:30 pm Spend the evening at Café Madrigal with Frank Delgado

Renowned singer and songwriter, for a discussion about the *nueva trova* movement in Cuba, followed by a musical performance. **Café Madrigal**, owned and run by film director Rafael Rosales, is housed in a beautiful colonial mansion with walls lined with captivating artwork.

8:00 pm Farwell dinner at Tierra

Havana's newest international dining spot. Located inside a container in the Fábrica de Arte Cubano, the restaurant mirrors the eclectic crowd, serving dishes from around the world.

Suggestion

Following dinner walk next door for live music, art and dancing at La Fabrica de Arte Cubana. Rock star X Alfonso has turned this into meeting spot for a young, eclectic crowd of Cubans and foreigners.

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Morning Check-out and depart for airport.
TBD Departure from Cuba.

IEOP Package Details

AAFS IEOP 2018 Tour Price:

Single Occupancy \$2,700.00 per person
Double Occupancy \$2,300.00 per person

Price Includes:

- 4 nights accommodation in Havana
Hotel Nacional de Cuba
Calle 21 y O, Vedado, Plaza
Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba
<http://www.hotelnacionaldecuba.com>
- Daily breakfast
- Meals as listed on itinerary
- Coordination of all listed activities
- Admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary
- Full time, professional, bilingual guide
- Local ground transportation for listed activities
- Pre-trip departure information
- Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department regulations

Not Included:

- Round-trip airfare
Cuban Visa (visas are available for purchase from U.S. airlines. In some instances, Cuba Educational Travel (CET) can process visas for \$100 per traveller)
- Airline baggage fees
- Meals and activities other than listed on itinerary
- Individual house or hotel expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc.)

Payments of \$2,700 (USA) per person single or \$2,300 (USA) per person double rate may be made by check to the **American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)**. MasterCard, American Express, Discover, and VISA credit cards are also accepted. A cancellation policy applies. **Please see the next page for cancellation policy details.**

Payment Schedule: Tour participants may remit payments per the following schedule: (1) one payment upon invoice for the full amount; or, (2) a deposit of 50% of total cost upon invoice and the second 50% before February 23, 2018.



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AAFS 2018 International Educational Outreach Program (IEOP) - Cuba May 23-27, 2018

President Betty Layne DesPortes and President-Elect Susan Ballou invite you to join them on the IEOP to Cuba. The itinerary will include visits to the University of Havana, Latin American Medical School, the Museum of the Revolution, along with many cultural exchanges. Following the design of previous tours, AAFS members will have opportunities to meet with forensic science colleagues in Cuba and take advantage of the cultural and historical riches of the wonderful sites to be visited.

REGISTRATION

Register online for the 2018 International Educational Outreach Program to Cuba, through Cuba Educational Travel [HERE](#). Enter password **cuba** to begin. Be sure to have an image of your passport ready to upload.



After submitting your registration, please forward your confirmation information to Tracie McCray (tmccray@aafs.org) and an invoice will be generated.

For any questions, please contact Nancy Jackson (njackson@aafs.org) AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

Please ensure that you have the proper documentation. United States citizens traveling to Cuba must have a current passport **valid for six (6) months beyond stay and a round-trip airline ticket**. **Travel visas** are required and can be purchased from U.S. airlines. *In some instances, Cuba Educational Travel (CET) can process visas for \$100 per traveller*. Non-U.S. citizens are encouraged to confirm the travel requirements for their country.

Space is limited so reserve your place today!

Cancellation Policy for AAFS 2018 International Educational Outreach Program to Cuba

All requests for tour cancellations must be made in writing and sent by fax (719-636-1993) or email (njackson@aafs.org) to the AAFS Headquarters. Phone cancellations will not be accepted. If a registration is cancelled, fees will be refunded based upon replacement availability and *tour refund policies negotiated with the Cuba Educational Travel, less a \$50 administrative fee. Restrictions and fees will apply and refunds are not guaranteed.

***CET Tour Refund Policy:**

- Cancellations made 120 Days prior to trip, full refund minus administrative fee.
- Cancellations made 119-91 days prior to trip, 50% refund.
- Cancellations made within 90 days of trip are non-refundable.
- In some instances, time permitting, a different traveller can take the place of a scheduled participant for a processing fee of \$350.

The quoted price in U.S. funds is good through January 23, 2018.

All taxes, fees, and charges (any related penalties and interest) imposed on any portion of a passenger's travel are the responsibility of the passenger, regardless of the date of purchase or travel, or any retroactive imposition of such taxes, fees, charges, penalties, and interest.

Release of Liability

I/we hereby acknowledge that I/we have voluntarily applied to join this program (AAFS 2018 IEOP) and to engage in activities conducted during the program by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, its associates and agents, and with this registration I/we certify that I/we have no physical, mental, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for me/us or other program participants.

I/we am aware that participation in this program and its activities involves the risk of injury and property damage from any cause whatever arising from my/our participation in the program. I/we understand that baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the program participants.

By the act of joining the program and participating in its activities, I/we, my/our heirs, personal representative and assigns will not make any claims, actions, or demands against or sue the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, its associates and agents in connection with any cause whatsoever arising from my/our attendance and participation in the program, including matters involving injuries or property damage.

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences, its associates, and agents act only as agents for the suppliers of transportation, lodging, meals, sightseeing activities, and other program activities, and have no responsibility for any damages, injuries, or accidents that might occur in relation to the use of these suppliers. Neither are they nor the suppliers to be held responsible for damages, injuries, or accidents that occur due to Acts of God, natural disasters, weather conditions, terrorism, or any other matters beyond their control. They retain the right in their sole discretion to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of a program. They are not liable for any penalty cost of a non-refundable air ticket purchased in connection with this program.

Participant Signature: _____ Date _____

Email Approval: _____ **(Please check)**

**Save the completed document to your hard drive and
either email as an attachment to njackson@aafs.org, or
fax to AAFS (719) 636-1993, or mail by USPS to
AAFS
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