

# CUBA

## SKETCHING ON LOCATION

December 2 - 9, 2017

*See firsthand Cuba's beautiful cultural center: Havana. Explore the streets lined with museums, churches, schools, and historic architecture. Engage with community members and gain a more in-depth understanding of this Caribbean island's people and their daily way of life. It may surprise you to find that despite economic challenges, the cityscape, beaches, botanical gardens, and organic farms, have thrived in Cuba. Journaling the sites in your own sketchbook, with help from instructor and artist Richard Scott, Havana will make for an inspiring locale.*

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Learn how to sketch on location during 5 sketching sessions around Havana.
- Explore old Havana, including the national museum of natural history.
- Engage with locals and discuss continuing restoration projects.
- Eat at Paladares (restaurants in private homes), for the chance to have intimate conversations with Cuban citizens.
- Enjoy a private performance of the Danza Teatro Retazos Contemporary Dance Company and learn about the history of the company.



SKETCH BY RICHARD SCOTT



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# ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## DECEMBER 2 - HAVANA

Upon arrival at the Havana International Airport, after clearing customs and collecting your luggage, you will be met outside the airport by your bilingual guide, who will escort you to your vehicle, where you will meet your driver for your time in Cuba. You will then be taken to the Melia Cohiba to check in and have time to freshen up before dinner at a local Paladar. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (D)*

## DECEMBER 3 - HAVANA

Following a delicious buffet breakfast at your hotel, you will have your first of five sessions with Richard Scott, your sketching instructor during your time in Cuba. You will meet in one of the conference rooms at the hotel from 9-10:30 am. After your time of instruction, you will be transferred the short distance to Old Havana, to a pre-determined location to begin your sketching on location opportunities. After lunch at a local café, you will be given a walking tour of Old Havana by your guide. As well, you will see the large model of the city of Havana and learn of the restoration projects that are always going on, especially in Old Havana. This evening, have dinner on the rooftop of Hotel Ambos Mundos. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 4 - HAVANA

This morning you will have the same schedule as the day before. In the afternoon, after lunch at a restaurant in Old Havana, you will visit the Organoponic Cooperative gardens in Alamar. Learn of the history of these gardens, how and why it was started as a cooperative endeavor, and the reasons they are flourishing today. You will then be given a guided walk about the gardens, you will no doubt be amazed at the tremendous job they are doing, the health of the crops, and the amount of good, wholesome food that is being produced. This evening, enjoy a performance and dinner at the Jazz Café, located across the street from your hotel. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 5 - HAVANA

Today you will travel outside of Havana and into the countryside to visit Las Terrazas, a self-sustained community named after their 5,000 hectare reforestation project. You will have lunch here and receive an informal discussion of the residents' everyday lives and sustainability. Meet one of the local artists who truly knows what it is to be sustainable, as he makes his own paper for his drawings, and sells his paintings to those that visit him. Enjoy a recreational lake activity, as well as a hike in their forest, before returning to Havana. This evening is at leisure. You may wish to take one of the special "old car" taxis into Old Havana for dinner at a local café. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (BL)*

## DECEMBER 6 - HAVANA

This morning you will get back into your routine of instruction at Melia Cohiba, followed by time to sketch in Old Havana. After lunch, you be taken to a local beach for some time to swim and enjoy the views of the sea. This evening's dinner will be at Cafe de los Artistas. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 7 - HAVANA

This morning you will have your instruction with Richard Scott followed by time to sketch on location in Old Havana. Enjoy lunch today at Sloppy Joe's, one of the iconic Hemingway haunts found in Cuba. You will then walk to the theatre that is home to the Danza Teatro Retazos Contemporary Dance Company. In the lobby, your hostess will tell you about the history of the company, the requirements to be a part of this world renowned group, and then you will be given a private performance. Be prepared to be amazed! This evening is yours to explore on your own. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (BL)*

## DECEMBER 8 - HAVANA

Your last day in Cuba will start a bit differently, as you will first visit Jardín Botánico Nacional de Cuba (National Botanical Garden of Cuba). This garden is famous for its numerous palm species, as well as other endemics. Their collections of succulents and tropicals are numerous, and finely displayed. You will be given a special guided tour and if possible, meet with the director of the garden. You will then be given a drive through the many acres of the arboretum portion of the garden, which is quite astounding. Enjoy an early lunch at El Bambú, an ecological open air restaurant on the grounds of the garden, which features healthy, wholesome, and delicious food. Upon your return to Melia Cohiba, you will have your final instructions and wrap up with Richard Scott in one of the conference rooms, and the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. This evening, enjoy a Farewell dinner at Paladar Vista Mar in Miramar. *Overnight at Melia Cohiba. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 9 - FAREWELL

Today is at leisure until approximately 2:00 pm, when you will be transferred to the Havana International Airport for your flight back to Los Angeles. Welcome home! (B)

## TOUR PRICING

**\$4,225** (minimum 16 participants)

*Includes international airfare from Los Angeles, meals, accommodations, in-country transportation and activities as mentioned, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, full time guide for duration of program, airport transfers, carbon offsetting, visa fee and bottled water on the bus.*

*Cost does not include gratuities, items of a personal nature.*

## THE FINE PRINT

*Cost is based on double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip add \$545. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is required to hold your space by August 04, 2017. This deposit is refundable until August 04, 2017 excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Non-refundable final payment is due in full August 29, 2017. Cancellations received after this date are not refundable. Traveltrip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call Travel Insured at 800-243-3174 or visit [www.travelinsured.com](http://www.travelinsured.com). Holbrook Travel's agency number is 15849.*



*This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at [holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe](http://holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe)*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL:

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