

CUBA



## CUBA

CUBAN HISTORY & CULTURE FROM EAST TO WEST

*Escorted by Drs. Alberto Jones & Glenwood Charles*

November 8 – 18, 2019

*Cuba's vibrant culture is intertwined with its long and complex past, drawing influence from early indigenous inhabitants, European colonists, and enslaved Africans. Its history of independence and revolution continues to shape the country today. Delve deeper as you visit the sites made famous by notable Cuban leaders and events. Beginning in Santiago de Cuba on the island's eastern coast, follow in the footsteps of Cuba's history as you traverse the island toward Havana and discover the country's cultural legacy: a warm and welcoming community that, despite oppression and isolation, has carved out its own indomitable cultural identity defined by resilience, tenacity, and spirit.*

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness how Cuba's history finds artistic expression through sculptures, folk art, music, and live theatrical performances.
- Visit landmarks made famous by historical figures such as Antonio Maceo, Che Guevara, and José Martí.
- Learn about important events in Cuba's history, including the fight for independence from Spain and the 1959 Revolution.
- Eat in local paladares and sample authentic Cuban cuisine.
- Spend several days exploring the architecture and cultural landmarks of Havana.



## ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### NOVEMBER 8 - SANTIAGO DE CUBA

This evening, upon arrival at the General Antonio Maceo International Airport in Santiago de Cuba, after clearing customs and collecting your luggage, you will be met by your guide and driver and transferred to your hotel. Celebrate your first night in Cuba with a welcome dinner and orientation at your hotel. *Overnight at Iberostar Imperial. (D)*

### NOVEMBER 9 - SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Spend the morning exploring some of Santiago de Cuba's important historical sites. Visit the Moncada Barracks, where an armed attack led by Fidel Castro launched the Cuban Revolution. Also see Abel Santamaría Park, named for another important Revolutionary figure, and the Avenida de los Libertadores ("Avenue of the Liberators"). Next, walk the colorful streets of the nearby Tívoli neighborhood, including the Padre Pico steps that are symbolic of the area. Have lunch at a pizzeria, and then tour the sculptures of Manduley Avenue and the private workshop of renowned sculptor and painter Alberto Lescaj. You'll then be treated to a boat ride across the bay. This evening dine at a paladar (a restaurant in a private home) and then enjoy a presentation at Theater Macubá. *Overnight at Iberostar Imperial. (BLD)*

### NOVEMBER 10 - SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Today starts with a visit to the Jardín de los Helechos, a garden known for its collection of ferns and orchids. Afterward, travel to the nearby town of El Cobre and see the Basílica of Our Lady of Charity and the Monumento al Cimarrón, a 20-foot sculpture by Alberto Lescaj that commemorates an important 18th century slave rebellion. After lunch at a paladar in El Cobre, return to Santiago de Cuba. Visit Santa Ifigenia Cemetery, where several notable figures of Cuban history are laid to rest, before continuing to General Antonio Maceo Square. Maceo, nicknamed the "Bronze Titan," played a critical role in Cuba's fight for independence from Spain; today, the square's bronze statue (also by Lescaj) is the largest in Cuba. After dinner at a local paladar, take in Céspedes Park and La Iris Jazz Club. *Overnight at Iberostar Imperial. (BLD)*



Basílica of Our Lady of Charity in El Cobre

## NOVEMBER 11 - HOLGUÍN

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and begin your journey to Holguín. En route, stop in Mangos de Baraguá and learn about the town's role in Cuba's independence from Spain. Also stop in the village of Mella for a visit to the Bayate Group, a community folk art project. Have lunch, and then continue on to see the birthplace of Fidel Castro in Birán. Dinner will be at a paladar in Holguín. *Overnight at Hotel Caballeriza. (BLD)*



Sancti Spiritus countryside by Kate Perez

## NOVEMBER 12 - SANCTI SPÍRITUS

Today, depart Holguín and travel to Sancti Spíritus. Along the way, stop in Las Tunas and visit the Museum of the Martyrs of Barbados, which honors the victims of the 1976 terrorist bombing of a Cuban flight from Barbados to Jamaica. Also enjoy a more light-hearted visit to the Anti-gravity House. Continue to Camagüey and have lunch at Paladar 1800. You'll have a chance after lunch for a brief view of downtown Camagüey on an enjoyable bici-taxi city tour before continuing to Sancti Spíritus. Dinner will be at a local paladar. *Overnight at Hostal El Rijo. (BLD)*

## NOVEMBER 13 - PLAYA LARGA

This morning, check out and head to the Che Guevara Memorial in Santa Clara. Also enjoy some time in Cienfuegos, known for its colonial-era buildings, with a look at Jose Martí Square, Terry Theater, and Palacio del Valle. Lunch today will be at Paladar Camila. Continue on to the Caribbean coast and Playa Larga, with a final visit en route to the Bay of Pigs Museum. Dinner is at Chuchi el Pescador for delicious seafood. *Overnight at Casa Enrique. (BLD)*

## NOVEMBER 14 - HAVANA

Have breakfast and, if the weather cooperates, enjoy a beautiful sunrise at Casa Enrique before setting off for Havana. Along the way, look for flamingos at a reserve in Playa Salinas, make a brief stop at the Treasure Lagoon, and visit Triunvirato in Cidra, site

of the first female slave uprising in Cuba. Lunch will be at a paladar located at Km 120. Continue on to Havana and settle into your room. Have dinner on your own to explore local fare, and then gather with the group again this evening to stroll La Rampa, a modern, bustling street at the heart of the city. *Overnight at Hotel Capri. (BL)*

## NOVEMBER 15 - HAVANA

This morning explore some of the key historical sites of Havana, including Columbus Cemetery, Revolution Square, and the monuments to former president José Miguel Gómez, Martin Luther King Jr., and activist Lucius Walker. Lunch will be at Paladar Los Amigos. This afternoon take a walking tour of Old Havana before gathering together at Hotel Nacional for a sunset drink. Dinner is on own this evening. *Overnight at Hotel Capri. (BL)*

## NOVEMBER 16 - HAVANA

After breakfast with your hosts, join the group and continue your exploration of the city. Stroll along the Paseo del Prado promenade to the Capitolio and into the Old Havana area, with time to shop for souvenirs. After dinner on own, enjoy a show at Hotel Nacional's Cabaret Parisien. *Overnight at Hotel Capri. (BL)*

## NOVEMBER 17 - HAVANA

Today visit the Park of African Heroes, where busts of a dozen African leaders and revolutionaries are on display. Drive by Miramar Research Centers, and then visit Punta Brava, where General Maceo fell in combat, and his burial site at El Cacahual. Tonight enjoy a farewell dinner and local entertainment at the Caribbean House. *Overnight at Hotel Capri. (BLD)*

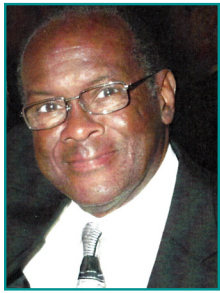
## NOVEMBER 18 - DEPART

This morning you will be transferred to the Havana International Airport for your flight(s) home. *(B)*



El Capitolio in Havana by Guillaume Baviere

## MEET YOUR ESCORTS



**Alberto N. Jones** is a retired veterinary pathologist who migrated from Cuba to the U.S. in the year 1980 and has lived in Florida since 1989. He is the founder/president of the Caribbean American Children Foundation, a board member of the Cuban American Alliance and Education Fund, the Saint Augustine Baracoa Friendship Association, Cuba Vive and other solidarity groups with Cuba.

Through these institutions and working with Pastors for Peace, we have improved relations and understanding between the people of the United States and Cuba, while delivering precious material support to the healthcare and educational system and the physically challenged in Cuba.

**Glenwood Charles** is a retired otolaryngologist who resides in Florida. Originally from St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, he first traveled to Cuba approximately 20 years ago via the Caribbean American Children Foundation and has returned to Cuba several times since. He held a Treasury Department license and was responsible for medical professional and cultural exchanges with donation of multiple medical supplies since 2002. Dr. Charles is interested in the development of cultural and professional interaction, especially within the Caribbean.

## LAND PRICING

**\$3,995** per person

Cost is based on a minimum of 16 participants and includes meals, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, international airfare from Miami, Cuban visa, departure tax, in-country transportation, full-time guide for the duration of the program, and most gratuities.

Does not include items of a personal nature.

## TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

## THE FINE PRINT

*Cost is based on double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip add \$520 per person. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable excluding a \$100 cancellation fee until August 30, 2019, at which time non-refundable final payment is due.*



Camagüey by David Bacon



Statue of General Antonio Maceo by Jack Wickes

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL

Visit [holbrook.travel/jones-cu19](http://holbrook.travel/jones-cu19) or contact Sandy Schmidt at 877-907-5360 or email [schmidt@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:schmidt@holbrooktravel.com)