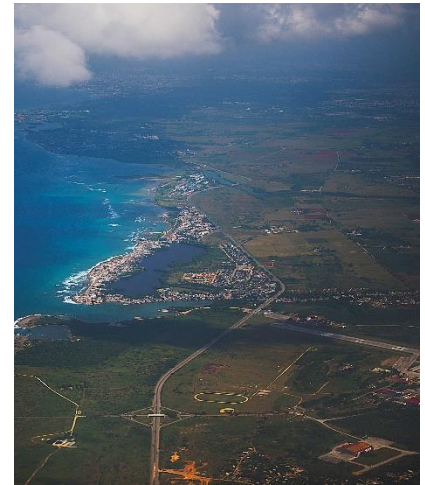


A.E. Backus Museum's Art & Culture Trip to Cuba

Trip Lead by Art Collector, Madeleine Plonsker &
Museum's Executive Director, Kathleen Fredrick

JANUARY 3RD – 8TH, 2017



Hotel Accommodations at the Havana - NH Capri

**Pricing Includes \$500 tax-deductible donation to the A.E. Backus Museum*

Single Occupancy

Museum Family Level Member - \$6,200*

Non Member - \$6,400*

Double Occupancy

Museum Family Level Member - \$5,800*

Non Member - \$6,000*



Rated Four Stars on Tripadvisor.com



Hotel Room are Clean and Bright

A Lovely Pool on the Ocean

In Hotel Breakfast Buffet



Day 1-Tuesday, January 3rd

Flight -Fort Lauderdale / Havana

2017 FLIGHTS TO BE DETERMINED

Representatives will meet the group at the airport and accompany group to the hotel. The route from the airport to the hotel will provide an opportunity for your guide to acquaint you with a few of the principal areas of the city such as the Plaza de la Revolucion and the Malecon.

ACTIVITES TO BE DETERMINED BASED ON ARRIVAL TIME

Arrive at Hotel Capri in Vedado

12:30 PM Lunch at paladar “Café Artes Aguiar” located at the Callejon de los Peluqueros in Old Havana

Old Havana

Take the opportunity to experience the restored beauty of the colonial heart of the city with a walking tour of Old Havana, led by an English-speaking Architect from La Oficina del Historiador de La Habana (Office of the Historian of Havana). After two prior locations, Havana was definitely

founded by the Spanish in 1519 at the natural harbor of the Havana Bay. Since that moment on it became a stopping point for the treasure laden Spanish Galleons on the crossing between the New and the Old Worlds. The city was built in baroque and neoclassic style. Many buildings have fallen in ruin in the latter half of the 20th century, but a number of them have been restored. After the UNESCO declared Havana a Cultural Heritage Site in 1982 started a renovation program, lead by La Oficina del Historiador de la Ciudad (Office of the Historian of City). As a result, the Old Havana is not a thematic park, but a live community, the second with the highest population of the country, in which History is sustained in the daily activities of its inhabitants.

2:30 PM Begin walking tour of Old Havana (Tour includes: Plaza de Armas / Palacio de los Capitanes G nerales/ Palacio Del Segundo Cabo / Plaza de la Catedral / Catedral de San Crist bal / Plaza Vieja / Plaza de San Francisco)

4:00 PM Enjoy a traditional Cuban mojito at Hotel Nacional’s famous Terrace Lounge, overlooking the Malecon. The Hotel Nacional is one of the most important exponents of Cuban architecture. It was designed by the New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White in an eclectic style. The building was set on the site of the Santa Clara Battery, which dates back to 1797. Part of the battery has been preserved in the hotel’s gardens. In its more than 80 years of existence, this World Heritage Site and National Monument has had many important guests as well as an intense history. **(Optional)**

Late Afternoon: Return to Hotel

7:30 PM Dinner at Paladar “La Guarida,” location of the famous film *Fresa y Chocolate* (*Strawberry and Chocolate*)

Suggested after-dinner activity: Live Latin Jazz music at “La Zorra y el Cuervo” Jazz Club located in Vedado Havana



Day 2-Wednesday, January 4th

Arts in the City

Discover the relationship between Havana and the Arts. The city, as the cultural epicenter of the country, offers a varied and rich artistic panorama in all expressions

10:00 AM Visit Danza Contemporanea de Cuba, one of the most renowned ballet companies in the island. With more than 70 works in its active repertoire, DCC has toured throughout the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa.

11:30 AM Guided visit to the Cuban Art Collection at the National Museum of Fine Arts. Art Historian Elisa Gonzalez is leading this visit, offering a detailed dissertation on the Cuban art's evolution since the colonial era to the contemporary art.

1:00 PM Lunch at Paladar "Al Carbón", located in Old Havana

3:00 PM Private visit to artists' studio and art galleries in Havana. Art Historian Elisa Gonzalez is leading this visit

Return to hotel at approximately 5:30 PM

8:00 PM Dinner at paladar "Opera" located in Vedado

Suggested after-dinner activity: Live jazz music at private bar "Valdes Jazz Restaurant" that belongs to the internationally renowned Jazz musician, Chucho

Valdes. The bar-restaurant is located in Vedado.

Day 3-Thursday, January 5th

Havana

10:00 AM Visit to the "Partagas" cigar factory in Havana. The factory's specialty guide will present the history of the making process of the world famous Cuban cigars while facilitating a warm interaction with the factory's workers.

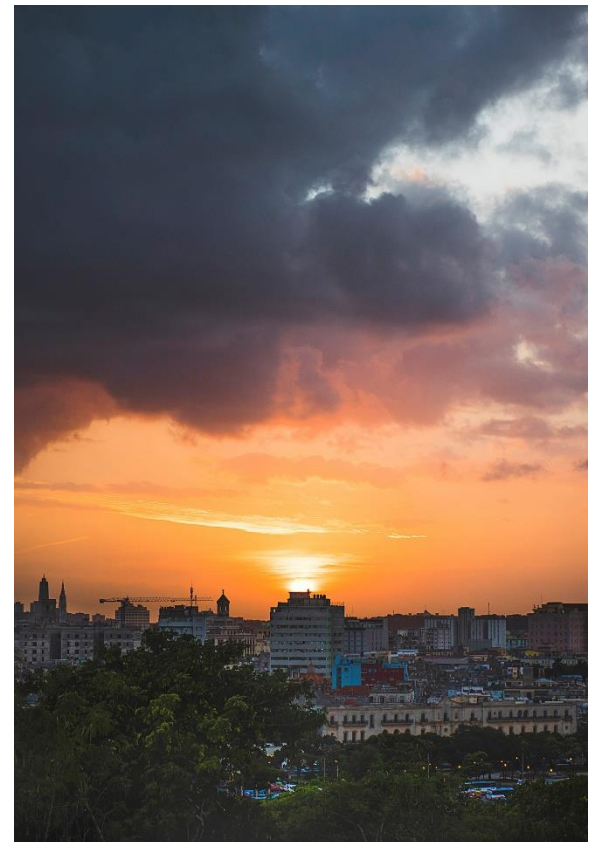
11:00 PM Guided visit to the ISA, the National Arts Schools. Art Historian Gretel Medina is leading the visit to these five buildings, considered the best exponents of modern architecture in Cuba. He will emphasize the artistic and political complexities of their fascinating history. You'll also have the possibility to visit the student's exhibitions at the Visual Arts Faculty as well as their studios and ateliers.

12:30 PM Lunch at paladar "La Corte del Principe" located in Miramar

2:30 PM Visit fashion and Jewelry designers' studios and design stores in Havana

Late Afternoon: Return to Hotel

8:00 PM Dinner at Paladar "L'Atelier" located in Vedado





Day 4-Friday, January 6th

Havana

10:00 AM Visit fashion and Jewelry designers' studios and design stores in Havana

12:30 PM Lunch at paladar Rio Mar located in Miramar

2:30 PM Continue the visit to private artists' studios and art galleries in Havana. Art Historian Elisa Gonzalez is leading this visit

Late Afternoon: Return to Hotel

8:00 PM Dinner at paladar "El Cocinero" located in Vedado

Suggested after-dinner activity: Live music and art exhibitions at Fabrica de Arte Cubano located next to El Cocinero. Havana

Day 5-Saturday, January 7th

The Modern Havana

Enjoy the splendor and beauty of Havana in the 30's, 40's and 50's in this journey through the modern districts of the city.

10:00 AM Depart hotel for a visit to the former Ernest Hemingway Estate, "Finca La Vigia," located in the town of San Francisco de Paula (45 Minutes outside of Havana)

12:30 PM Visit to the fishing village of Cojimar, which provided the inspiration for Hemingway's novel *The Old Man and the Sea*.

1:00 PM Lunch at Paladar "Casa Grande," located in Habana del Este

3:00 PM Tour of the modern neighborhoods of El Vedado and Miramar with and English-speaking Architect. The tour includes private visits to the homes of the Pre Revolution Social Elite as featured in Hermes Mallea's book *Great Houses of Havana*.

Visit the Decorative Art Museum, the former house and collection of Maria Luisa Gomez Mena. The Countess of Revilla de Camargo was known as the "Cuban Peggy Guggenheim" because of her life style and intense promotion of the Island artistic avant-garde. The museum shows Gomez Mena's collection of furniture, decoration and silverware in their original disposition.

Return to hotel at approximately 5:30 PM

8:00 PM Dinner at paladar "La ESperanza" located in Miramar

Suggested after-dinner activity: Live music at the House of Filling music "El Gato Tuerto" Club located in Vedado



Day 6-Sunday, January 8TH

Flight from Havana / Fort Lauderdale

Trip Includes airfare accommodations, breakfast daily, tours, day trips, ground transportation and excursions. Trip limited to 20 guests.

Itinerary & Flights subject to change without notice, due to availability, inclement weather or circumstances beyond our control.

Please note that the price does not include:

- Domestic flights to, or overnight stay in Ft. Lauderdale
- Charter Company Checked Baggage & Excess Weight Fees
- Lunches and Dinners, alcoholic beverages,
- Optional & Evening Activities
- Personal hotel incidentals/expenses
- Gratuities for specialty guides and driver/guide

Quoted Price includes a tax-deductible \$500 donation to the Museum

(Please make tax-deductible donation payable to the A.E. Backus Museum.)

Reservation is not complete without a donation to the museum.

All Travel Reservations must be made directly with Bespoke Custom Cuba Travel. Please contact Bespoke and reference the *Backus Museum Cuba Trip*



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Photography of Cuba, compliments of Quinn Hiaasen. Once the Museum reopens on November 13, 2016 for its 55th season, you may see more of Quinn's work on exhibit in the Mural Plaza.
