Insider’s Cuban Heritage

what’s included

- Round-Trip Flights
- 24-Hour Tour Manager
- 8 Nights Accommodations
- 21 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 7 Dinners
- Two Bottles of Water on the Bus Per Day
- Two Beverages with Lunch and Dinner
- Full-Time Program of People to People Meetings

our promise

In educational travel, every moment matters. Pushing the experience from “good enough” to exceptional is what we do every day. Our mission is to empower educators to introduce their students to the world beyond the classroom and inspire the next generation of global citizens. Travel changes lives.

“Our tour guide was phenomenal; he went above and beyond my expectations. His knowledge of the area and the history behind it was most impressive.”

Matthew L. Participant

Mar 5 - Mar 13, 2016

Group Leader:
Kelli Stanyard

Group ID:
20024

Depart From:
Atlanta

www.acis.com | accounts@acis.com | 1-877-795-0813
trip itinerary - 9 days

Mar 5, 2016: Miami
Welcome to Miami. Your ACIS Representative will meet you at the hotel for an orientation briefing and review of documents.

Mar 6, 2016: Havana
This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Cuba. Upon arrival in Havana you will be met by your Cuban tour manager who will facilitate your exploration of the country’s culture and people. Begin with a walking tour of World Heritage sites in Old Havana, before visiting a printing and engraving workshop where you will meet with the artisans and their students to learn about their craft. Enjoy beautiful views of the Bay of Havana during dinner this evening at a favorite local paladar. Afterward, see the historical cannon ceremony and Changing of the Guard held at the La Cabaña fortress. (B,D)

Mar 7, 2016: Havana
After breakfast you will see how celebrations of Cuban life are shared in community art projects such as the murals of the Muraleando Project. Meet with the students during their art classes and learn how this community development movement brought color and a sense of unity to the barrio. Enjoy lunch today at a paladar and learn how these establishments—newly emerging “private” restaurants—are transforming the previously government-run dining experience in Cuba from an uninspired experience to one you’re likely to savor. After, enjoy the sweet sounds of a choral performance by Coro Luna at the historic Hotel Nacional. This evening dine family-style at another local paladar, with the chance to continue conversations on how the new economic reforms towards free enterprise impact both local residents and travelers from abroad. (B,L,D)

Mar 8, 2016: Havana
This morning enjoy a live student rehearsal at the Habana Compas Dance School, a dance company renowned for their fusion of Afro-Cuban elements with contemporary dance techniques, and learn about the life of a dancer during a Q&A session with the students and choreographers. Following lunch, visit the Domino Federation where you’ll engage in games of dominos with the local players after they provide an overview of the rules and techniques for playing. Taste the flavors of traditional Cuban chicken barbeque during dinner at Restaurant El Aljibe tonight. (B,L,D)

Mar 9, 2016: Viñales
Today depart for the Viñales Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site rich in agricultural tradition. En route, stop to meet with local farmers at a farming community and engage in dialogue with them about their lifestyle, sustainable farming practices and economic development. Stop in Soroa to see the incredible gardens and grounds of one of the world’s largest orchid farms before discovering the Soroa waterfall. Then visit a local artist’s studio to learn about his projects, including the restoration of the community’s school. Continue to Las Terrazas to visit the Communitarian Project where you will talk with the environmental scientists responsible for the restoration of the jungles and forests of this region, a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Learn about the principles, approaches, and practices which combine to sustain Las Terrazas against the effects of deforestation. End today in the unique and lovely natural setting of your hotel. (B,L,D)

Mar 10, 2016: Viñales
Today discover the dramatic cliffs, caves, karst formations, ancient petroglyphs, and rounded hills called mogotes that characterize the Viñales Valley. Hop in a canoe to explore the subterranean river of the Cueva del Indio, one of the region’s unique caves. Then stop at Mural de la Prehistoria before you visit a local tobacco farm and learn how the crop has shaped life in this area for generations by its people, crafts and music. The valley’s traditional methods of agriculture, especially of tobacco growing, have remained unchanged for several centuries and as tobacco is the crop which gives the best yields, almost all of the current residents of Viñales Valley are engaged in growing tobacco. You’ll enjoy lunch at the tobacco farm before meeting with local artists and craft workers in their homes and studios. Savor the unique flavors of a cena croilla dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Mar 11, 2016: Varadero
Today’s scenic drive along the coast brings you to Matanzas, a city known for its Afro-Cuban heritage, poetry and culture. Here you will visit with the farmers and artists at Coincidencia Farm, owned by a local potter, to learn about their art projects, see the sculpture garden and enjoy lunch together. Then continue to your resort in the coastal town of Varadero with time to enjoy its picturesque white sand beaches. (B,L,D)

Mar 12, 2016: Varadero
Drive back to nearby Matanzas this morning to enjoy a performance of the Youth Chorus of Matanzas at the Casa de Cultura. You will have a chance to meet with students after the performance—be prepared to return the gift of music by singing a song, dancing or perhaps performing a magic trick with your hosts! Share box lunches together and enjoy time to
learning objectives

1. Students will gain an understanding of the impact felt by the local workforce from Cuba’s economic reforms toward free enterprise.

2. Students will gain an understanding of the challenge of developing sustainable and responsible agriculture and tourism without damaging a fragile environment.

3. Students will discuss the history and evolution of U.S. relations with Cuba over the past century and how the people of each country have been affected.

tour cost

Participant Fees

Program Fee $3979
Early Registration Discount $-100

Total Participant Fees² $3879

² Valid through 10/01/15 with $495 deposit.

Additional Fees (as applicable)

Adult Surcharge $95
Single Room Supplement $680
Double Room Supplement $360
Ultimate Protection Plan $270
Comprehensive Protection Plan $225

notes from acis

• Adult travelers age 24 and older should add in the Adult Surcharge and Double or Single Room Supplement to calculate their Total Group Fees.

• All registered participants can enjoy the convenience, security and savings of having payments automatically withdrawn from a checking account by enrolling in an Automatic Payments plan within My Account (www.acis.com/accounts). To learn more, visit www.acis.com/studentsparents/autopay

• This educational travel program is not school or district sponsored unless expressly stated by the Group Leader.

This is a preliminary itinerary for your group.

The Most Recommended Educational Travel Company!

Don’t just take our word for it! Read reviews online at acis.com/ICU
Travel Changes Lives

Can travel make a difference in students’ futures? It certainly can and does every single day. In fact, we surveyed 930 former ACIS travelers to see how their tours abroad as young adults influenced their choices in education and paved a way for future careers. Many of them credit travel as a defining moment in their adolescence, and below is a recap of our findings.

**education**

- 81% of those that traveled in middle school or high school continued their studies at the college level compared to the national average of 68%.
- 37% of travelers who went on to college said their travel experience influenced their field of study.
- 57% of respondents were motivated to study abroad during college.

**language skills**

- 67% of students continued to study foreign language in college.
- 73% of ACIS travelers say they speak one foreign language fairly well compared with 18% of the American population.

**personal development**

- 94% felt more independent after their trip.
- 78% saw an increase in their problem solving skills.
- 92% noted improvement in their interpersonal skills.
- 65% have traveled overseas again since their ACIS trip.

Get Started Today

**ONLINE:**
Find Your Trip at: [www.acis.com](http://www.acis.com)
Enter your Group Leader’s ID & Last Name (on page 1) about halfway down the page. Click Register Now on your Trip Site when you’re ready to sign up.

**MAIL:**
If you prefer, send your completed registration form to:
ACIS
343 Congress Street Suite 3100
Boston, MA 02210

**QUESTIONS?**
Give client services a ring at: 877-795-0813 or email: accounts@acis.com

To learn more, we invite you to read our free ebook, “The Making of a Five-Star Future.” [http://pages.acis.com/ebook](http://pages.acis.com/ebook)