

VMMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS



The Art & Architecture of Cuba: In Support of the Cuban People

February 12–19, 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

ENGAGE with Cuba's leading creators in exclusive gatherings, with intimate discussions at the homes and studios of artists, a private rehearsal at a famous dance company, and a phenomenal evening of art and music at Havana's Fábrica de Arte Cubano

DELIGHT in a private, curator-led tour at the National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana, with its impressive collection of Cuban artworks and international masterpieces from Caravaggio, Goya, Rubens, and other legendary artists

CELEBRATE and mingle with fellow travelers at exclusive receptions, including a cocktail reception with a sumptuous dinner in the company of the President of The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba and an after-tours tour and reception at the dazzling Ceramics Museum

MEET the thought leaders who are shaping Cuban society, including the former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will share profound insights on Cuban politics

DISCOVER the splendidly renovated Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso, the ornately designed, Neo-Baroque-style home to the Cuban National Ballet Company, on a private tour

ENJOY behind-the-scenes tours and meetings with workers at privately owned companies, including a local workshop for Havana's classic vehicles and a factory producing Cuban cigars

VENTURE to the picturesque Cuban countryside for a behind-the-scenes tour of a beautiful tobacco plantation led by its farmers, and take an inside look at the production of Cuba's most treasured crop

DELVE into the life of Ernest Hemingway at Finca La Vigía, the house where he lived for 20 years, with a glimpse of his famous fishing boat *Pilar*



V M F A

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear Friends,

Just 90 miles from the United States yet seemingly a world away, Cuba holds a captivating mystique for many Americans. In February 2022, join the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts for a thrilling discovery of its colorful art and architecture, soul-stirring music and dance, and fascinating history. We'll be traveling in support of the Cuban people, experiencing this enigmatic Caribbean island through the eyes of its warm and welcoming citizens. Our previous journeys to Cuba in 2017 and 2019 were so popular that we are offering this enriching tour again in 2022, with new surprises and delights.

On this week-long exploration, visit the private homes and studios of the country's most intriguing creators. Savor Cuba's artistic legacy on an exclusive curatorial tour of the National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana. Join an architectural historian to discover this 500-year-old city's wealth of centuries-old plazas and stunning cathedrals. Enjoy an immersion into quintessential Cuba, from a visit to a privately owned workshop featuring Havana's iconic vintage cars, to a tour with workers at a factory producing Cuba's famous cigars. Outside Havana, admire Cuba's impressive natural beauty on a beautiful drive to the rural province of Pinar del Río. Take an inside look at the production of this region's most cherished crop, tobacco, on a farmer-led tour of a lush plantation. A wonderful highlight on our final day will be an exclusive view of Ernest Hemingway's Cuba, with an excursion to his longtime home.

Along the way, savor Cuban cuisine during meals at *paladares*—privately owned restaurants located in the proprietor's home. Enjoy elegant receptions, including cocktails and a marvelous dinner with the President of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, to an after-hours tour and reception at the Ceramics Museum. Accommodations are at a centrally located hotel, near the edge of UNESCO-recognized Old Havana.

In February 2022, we hope to welcome you on this close-to-home winter adventure in support of the Cuban people.

Sincerely



Adele "Hutch" Livingston
Coordinator of Member Travel



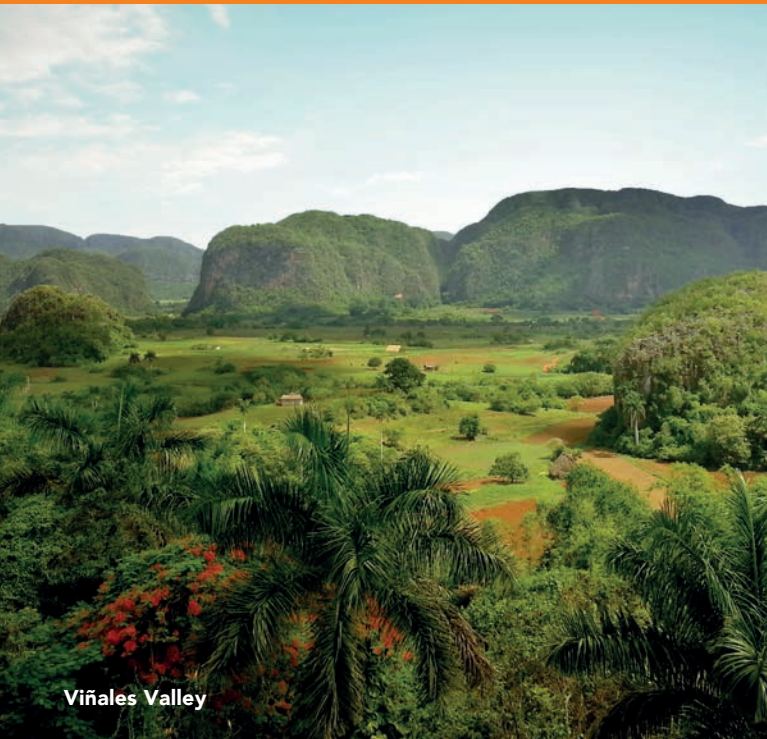
Finca La Vigía, photo by Jay Hunt



Cojimar

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Viñales Valley

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12: DEPARTURE / HAVANA, CUBA

Arrive independently in Havana. You will be met upon arrival at the José Martí International Airport and transferred to a superb and centrally located hotel in the city (*to be confirmed*). In the early evening, gather to meet your VMFA host and hear about your upcoming week in Cuba. Our welcome dinner this evening is at a *paladar*, a privately owned restaurant that is located in the proprietor's home and largely staffed by family members. D

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13: HAVANA

Join a local architectural historian for a lecture on the history of Havana's remarkably well-preserved buildings. Afterwards, depart on a walking tour of Old Havana focusing on the four main squares: the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja, and Plaza de la Catedral. Following lunch at a *paladar*, take a private tour of the splendidly renovated Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso. Explore the homes and studios of some of Havana's leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings. Dinner is at El Cocinero, followed by an evening of entertainment next door at Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC), the city's liveliest multidisciplinary performing and visual arts space. B,L,D

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14: HAVANA / VIÑALES

Take a morning drive through the countryside to the western province of Pinar del Río, known for its lush tobacco plantations. Explore the unique topography and natural beauty of the Viñales Valley, where you'll encounter spectacular caves, underground rivers, and the famous mogotes, the iconic hillocks of the region. Meet with farmers for a private tour of their tobacco plantation to learn about the drying and rolling processes. Lunch is at a privately owned organic farm. Visit a local artists' studio before returning to Havana. B,L

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15: HAVANA

On an early visit to a cigar factory, watch as Cuba's prized export travels down the production line and have a chance to chat with workers. At the National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana, take a private tour with an independent curator, and trace Cuba's history through the works of its greatest artists. After lunch, walk down Calle Obispo, Havana's main shopping street; explore a local design shop; and speak to the owners about small business practices in Cuba. In the early evening, drive to The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, one of only a few Cuban NGOs, for a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation's President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace, where invited guests include local Cuban artists. This evening, you may opt to attend a performance at one of Havana's famed music venues, including the legendary Tropicana. B,L,R,D

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16: HAVANA

This morning, discover Havana's Art Deco highlights on an architectural tour, beginning at the Bacardi Building, a masterpiece of this early 20th-century style. Our exploration of the city's great buildings continues with architectural achievements from before and after the Revolution, including the López Serrano Building, Havana's first skyscraper; and the Catalina Lasa House, with its interiors by René Jules Lalique. Explore the history of the renowned Hotel Nacional (1930), which was originally designed by McKim, Mead & White. Enjoy a *mojito* on a terrace overlooking Havana's harbor before lunch. Then tour a private classic car workshop, Nostalgicar, where some of the city's finest vintage cars are repaired and refurbished. In the early evening, enjoy a choral performance by Vocal Leo, with an opportunity to chat with the performers. B,L



Jaimanitas



Colón Cemetery

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17: HAVANA

Drive this morning to tour Cuba’s leading art school, the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA). Delight in an opportunity to interact with professors and students and view their artwork. Then visit the home and studio of artist José Rodríguez Fuster in the village of Jaimanitas, where he has decorated more than 80 houses with ornate murals and domes tailored to the personalities of his neighbors. Among his creations is the Artists’ Wall, composed of a quilt of dozens of tiles signed and donated by other Cuban artists. Gather this afternoon for a lecture on the island’s current realities by a former ambassador who was once Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. In the early evening, attend a private after-hours tour and reception at the Ceramics Museum, followed by dinner at a local *paladar*. B,L,R,D

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18: HAVANA

Delight in exclusive access to an informal morning rehearsal of the Rosario Cárdenas contemporary dance company. Afterwards, visit the Colón Cemetery with a local guide. With its ornate tombstones commemorating Cuban heroes, statesmen, and novelists, this cemetery is sometimes called the largest sculpture park in Cuba. In the afternoon, venture to the outskirts of Havana to the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula, and visit Finca La Vigía (Lookout Farm), the house where Ernest Hemingway lived for 20 years. On the grounds, you can see his famous fishing boat *Pilar* and climb the tower to his study. Make your way to the village of Cojimar, the setting for Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, for a brief visit. This evening, celebrate with a festive farewell dinner at one of Havana’s excellent *paladares*. B,D

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19: HAVANA / DEPARTURE

Transfer to the airport for flights home. B

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

PROGRAM RATE

\$5,999 per person, double rate

\$7,599 single rate

RATE INCLUDES

- Seven nights hotel accommodations (*hotel pending confirmation*)
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, R = Reception, D = Dinner). Bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals, house wine at lunches and dinners
- Airport / hotel transfers
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE International airfare; Cuban visa; Cuban Departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; travel insurance; excess baggage; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; travel insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso, Havana





Classic cars, Old Havana

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
THE ART & ARCHITECTURE OF CUBA • FEBRUARY 12–19, 2022
RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (mobile)

Fax E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single

I wish to share a room with

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see <https://arrangementsabroad.com/terms> to review or call for a copy). Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date

Signature (required) Date

All U.S.-Cuban dual citizens should note that Cuba's government treats U.S. citizens born in Cuba as Cuban citizens. Cuban-born travelers do not need a visa, but they must travel with a green card or an American passport as well as a valid Cuban passport or HE-11 Visa. In some cases, a permit may also be required. Please contact our office prior to reservation for additional details.

Travel to Cuba is permitted by the US Department of the Treasury only if the travel falls into one of the 12 categories of licensed activities. The participants on this program will be licensed under a General license for activities in support of the Cuban people. To comply with the requirements of this license, participants will be asked to certify in writing, that they agree to participate. Also, to enter Cuba, a Cuban visa and Cuban health insurance are required. For more information about the requirements for travel to Cuba, please see: https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Pages/licensing.aspx#c_trav