

# Havana

THE AFRO-CUBAN EXPERIENCE

**SMALL  
GROUP**  
Maximum of  
12 Travelers



SPONSORED BY

**AIR INCLUSIVE**  
from Miami, FL



**UC DAVIS**  
Aggie Adventures  
Cal Aggie Alumni Association

UC Davis  
Cal Aggie Alumni Association  
April 2-9, 2027  
Accompanied by your host,  
Professor Bettina Ng'weno  
Chair of African American Studies



**Professor  
Bettina Ng'weno**

*Chair of African  
American Studies*

Bettina Ng'weno, professor in African American and African Studies at UC Davis, will be the guest faculty host. Her research and teaching focuses on Afro-Latin American culture and society, and she has previously led a study abroad program to Cuba in 2009. She has a special interest in religions of African origin, music, food, land, and citizenship.



## AGGIE ADVENTURES

### Dear UC Davis Alumni and Friends,

Venture to Cuba, where Afro-Cuban heritage is interwoven with the island's cultural, social and spiritual identity. Stay for seven nights at a first-class boutique hotel in the heart of Havana. With your small group of 12 guests, you'll form authentic connections with the Afro-Cuban community and gain insight into the island country's complex African history, traditions and legacy — rooted in slavery, resilience and optimism.

From historic Old Havana to Guanabacoa, Regla and Matanzas, each day features meaningful encounters with Cuba's warm people. Interact with entrepreneurs, artists, dancers, performers and community and religious leaders, who share their personal stories and perspectives on the far-reaching impact of Cuba's African diaspora.

Our thoughtfully crafted, full daily schedule of activities provides immersion in the lives of hardworking Cubans, guided by AHI's knowledgeable local Travel Director, expert guides and esteemed lecturers who offer valuable insight and enrichment.

Space is limited, so we encourage you to reserve today! This exclusive program, developed by AHI Travel, is operated in accordance with a People-to-People general license established by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Sincerely,

Ryan Crosbie  
Director, Aggie Adventures Travel  
UC Davis Cal Aggie Alumni Association

[alumni.ucdavis.edu/membership/travel](http://alumni.ucdavis.edu/membership/travel)  
[aggieadventures@ucdavis.edu](mailto:aggieadventures@ucdavis.edu)  
530-752-4502

### UNESCO World Heritage

#### Old Havana and its Fortification System



*La Cabaña fortress, Havana harbor*

This trip is shared by UC alumni from six of the University of California campuses. These shared departures offer a unique and enriching experience that goes beyond the typical tourist journey. Being UC alumni creates an immediate bond and shared sense of community. This common background often leads to deeper connections, fostering friendships and camaraderie during travels.

**AVAILABLE TO ALUMNI, THEIR FAMILIES  
AND FRIENDS...**



# Havana | THE AFRO-CUBAN EXPERIENCE



Top: Vintage cars, Havana | Above: Afro-Cuban dancer  
Cover: Cuban musician | Mail panel: Colonial architecture,  
Old Havana | Cuban contemporary dancer

## Inspiring Moments



- Broaden your understanding of the **African diaspora's** profound influence on Cuban life and culture.
- **Engage in meaningful** conversations with Cuba's warm and resilient people.
- Explore the **deep Afro-Cuban heritage** of Regla, Guanabacoa and Matanzas.
- Stroll through El Callejón de Hamel, a **vibrant cultural enclave** of music, street art and Afro-Cuban traditions.
- **Experience daily Cuban life** while visiting Afro-Cuban businesses, cultural centers, and dance and artist studios.
- **Ride in a 1950s American convertible** along Havana's Malecón sea drive.
- Spend a day alongside residents of **a self-sustaining rural community**.
- Experience historic Old Havana and its Fortification System, a **UNESCO World Heritage site**.



Plaza of the Cathedral, Old Havana

### Day 1 | Miami, Florida | Havana, Cuba

Depart Miami for Havana. Arrive, transfer and check in to the Paseo 206 hotel.

**Welcome Dinner.** Gather for dinner and meet local Cubans on your first night in Cuba!

### Day 2 | Havana | Regla | Guanabacoa

**Afro-Cuban Old Havana.** Join Cuban writer and activist Roberto Zurbarano for a guided walk of La Habana Vieja. Stroll past colonial-era architecture through four historic plazas while learning about Cuba's engrossing, tumultuous history and Afro-Cuban heritage. Stop to visit Beyond Roots, an independently owned shop that offers services and workshops to highlight and preserve Cuba's Afro-Cuban identity.

**Regla & Guanabacoa.** Visit Regla, a stronghold of rich Afro-Cuban religious traditions. Stop by the Iglesia de Nuestra Señora church to see the Black Madonna. Continue to Guanabacoa to visit the home a Yoruba high priest and learn about Ifá practices and culture, followed by an authentic Cuban lunch and conversation.

**Enrichment: Cuba and U.S. Relations.**

### Day 3 | Havana

**Norma Guillard.** Meet distinguished Cuban social psychologist and adjunct lecturer at the University of Havana, Norma Guillard. Watch "Maestra," a documentary about the female volunteers who taught over 900,000 Cubans to read and write during the 1961 Cuban Literacy Campaign. Guillard will share stories about her involvement at age 15, as well as her ongoing work and writing in support of Cuban women, followed by an engaging discussion.

**National Museum of Fine Arts.** Join Wilfredo Benítez of the Ludwig Foundation for a guided tour of this vital cultural institution. He'll offer insightful commentary focused on significant Cuban works in the museum, which holds art from the colonial-era and the 19th-century to modern, revolutionary and avant-garde works. Discuss your morning's insights over lunch.

**El Callejón de Hamel.** Stroll along this eclectic, paint-splattered alleyway, brimming with vibrant street art and rumba drumming, while learning about Cuba's diverse Afro-Cuban religions.

**Enrichment: The Cuban Health Care System.**

### Day 4 | Havana

**Enrichment: Empowering Cuban Women.**

**Jewish Culture & Cuban Dance.** Visit the Ashkenazi Community Center to gain insight into Cuba's Jewish culture. Stop at Malpaso, a contemporary dance studio. The company will perform a moving dance arrangement for you,

Beyond Roots, Havana





followed by a Q&A with the talented dancers. Stop for lunch at a casual café in Old Havana.

**Ludwig Foundation.** Later, gather on the terrace of this nonprofit institution, dedicated to protecting and promoting Cuban artists and culture. Engage in intellectual exchanges with local artists to hear about and view their art.

**Women-Owned Shops.** Visit Zulu, created and owned by Cuban women. Talk with the staff to learn about the Afro-Cuban workshop that crafts leather goods from recycled scraps, and their challenges and aspirations.

Relish dinner and discussion together tonight.

#### Day 5 | Havana | Matanzas

**Matanzas & the Slave Route.** Journey to the province of Matanzas today, pausing en route to admire sweeping views of the lush Yumurí Valley. Visit the San Severino Castle, the 1735 fortress where slaves were brought from Africa in the 18th century. Continue to the city center,

*Black Madonna, Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Regla*



stopping at the Museo Farmacéutico building for an *a cappella* chamber choir performance, followed by a Q&A session with the singers.

**Sugar Mill Triunvirato.** Visit the 19th-century sugar plantation and site of the 1843 Slave Rebellion for a tour of the plantation house and exhibits on slavery and the Angola War. Savor a farm-to-table lunch nearby.

#### Day 6 | Havana

**Enrichment: Race & the Cuban Revolution.**

**Agromercado & Art Studio.** Step into daily Cuban life at a bustling local farmers' market. Then, visit Casa Fuster, the studio of Cuban painter and sculptor José Fuster. View vibrant

*Salsa dancers, Havana*





## Included Features



### Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- 7 nights in Havana, Cuba, at the first-class Paseo 206 boutique hotel.

### Flights & Transfers (with baggage handling)

- Round-trip flights between Miami and Cuba and all deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus beer, wine or a local cocktail with dinner.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 12 guests.
- **Enrichment** by expert speakers enhances your insight into Cuba's history, heritage and culture.
- **Engaging excursions** provide meaningful connections with small business owners and individual Cuban residents who share their personal stories and unique perspectives.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Cuban visa.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

mosaics, hear about his work and relish lunch together in this creative environment.

**Vintage Car Ride.** Thrill to a ride in a classic 1950s American convertible on Havana's Malecón sea drive. Peek beneath the hood and enjoy chatting with your friendly driver.

**Afro-Cuban Dance.** Meet with a dynamic music-and-dance trio. Learn basic salsa steps and practice together to lively Cuban music for an invigorating and fun experience!

### Day 7 | Havana | Rural Cuba

**Las Terrazas.** Drive to the island's verdant mountains to visit to a self-sustaining socialist community. Learn about their reforestation mission and daily lives during stops at a café, daycare, doctor's office and artist's studio. Savor locally grown vegetables at lunch.

**Enrichment: *The Rhythms of Cuban Music.***

**Farewell Dinner.** Celebrate your enriching week during dinner at a local restaurant.

### Day 8 | Havana | Miami, Florida

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to Miami, Florida, and connection to your home city.

**Note:** This itinerary is subject to change. If an event must be canceled, it will be replaced with another People-to-People event.

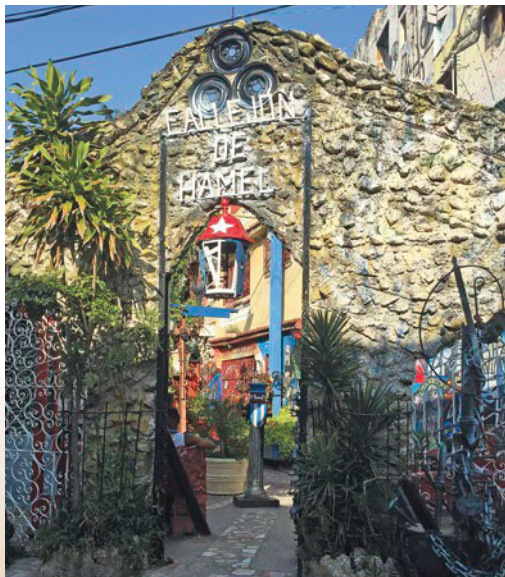
## Activity Level

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

### Excursions on this itinerary require:

- full days of ongoing activities
- walk 1–3 miles on flat/uneven terrain; navigate ramps and up to 100 stairs, often without handrails; stand 1–3 hours
- getting on/off motor coaches, with several steep steps, multiple times daily

*El Callejón de Hamel, Havana*



Casa Fuster, Havana



Cuban art



Cuban artist



Matanzas

# 2027 | Departure Details

## Program Dates

**Travel dates †**      **April 2-9, 2027**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

**Tour dates\***            **April 2-9, 2027**

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

## Land Program

Category	Full Price	Special Savings Price*
Standard	\$6,245	<b>\$5,495</b>
Junior Suite	\$6,745	<b>\$5,995</b>
Master Suite	\$7,245	<b>\$6,495</b>
Rooftop Suite	\$7,745	<b>\$6,995</b>

**\*This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.**

Deposit amount is \$1,000 per person.

Final Payment is due at least 150 days prior to departure.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single accommodations are not available on this program.

**Please note:** Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://davis.ahitravel.com/destinations/1998A?schoold=229>.

Explore Cuban culture through interaction with local Cuban residents, artists and artisans, musicians, writers and entrepreneurs, which will directly benefit and support the Cuban people.

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Agromercado

# Accommodations



## Paseo 206 | Havana



Conveniently located in Havana's El Vedado neighborhood, the privately owned Paseo 206 boutique hotel features a fusion of Cuban and Italian sophistication, contemporary Cuban artwork, modern comforts, amenities and attentive service. After a day of enriching activities, enjoy an aperitif in the library room or dinner at the popular Eclectico restaurant.



## AHI Travel Expertise



**Travel Consultants** guide you through the reservation process.

**Travel & Air Coordinators** offer assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

**Handpicked Expert Guides** and **Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.

## Book your journey today!

800-323-7373

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## Uncover Cuba's enduring Afro-Cuban heritage and culture!

**Please call or refer to  
our website for the  
most current program  
information, discounts  
and pricing.**

**Book your journey today!**

**800-323-7373**

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