



# Brandeis TRAVELERS

## Cuba Through The Eyes of the People

March 4 - 11, 2017

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

**LEARN** about life in this rapidly changing nation in meaningful exchanges with locals

**ENJOY** exclusive receptions at Havana's most interesting museums and cultural institutions

**VISIT** Ernest Hemingway's country estate, where he lived for 20 years and wrote two of his most famous books

**MEET** leading contemporary artists during gallery tours and special events

**WATCH** talented modern dancers practice during a company rehearsal

**ATTEND** a briefing at the Jewish Community Center by its president, Adela Dworin

**DISCOVER** Cuba's vibrant film industry on a visit to the Instituto Cubano del Arte e Industria Cinematográficos

## TRAVELING WITH YOU



**Fernando J. Rosenberg** is chair of Romance Studies and a faculty member of the Latin American and Latino Studies program at Brandeis University. Rosenberg teaches and writes about contemporary Latin American cultural expressions — film, visual arts and literature. His classes at Brandeis explore topics such as narratives of nationhood, poetry and the short story, the relation between art and social change, and films from and about Latin America. He is fascinated by the pivotal role that Cuba has played in the cultural history of the Americas and by its always lively artistic scene. Rosenberg is the author of "Avant-Garde and Geopolitics" (2006) and "After Human Rights: Literature, Visual Arts, and Film in Latin America 1990-2010" (2016) as well as of numerous articles.

# Brandeis TRAVELERS



Dear Brandeis Travelers,

I first traveled to Cuba in the 1980s, when I was a student at Dartmouth College. Recently, I had the pleasure of returning to this enchanting island. Its colorful architecture, rich history, and warm and welcoming people make Cuba an extraordinary destination.

I am delighted to invite you to join alumni and friends on a Brandeis Travel Program exclusive tour of Cuba, led by Fernando J. Rosenberg, chair of Romance Studies and a faculty member of the Latin American and Latino Studies program at Brandeis University. With the arrival of normalized U.S.—Cuba relations, the island is in the midst of historic changes and more fascinating than ever.

Our one-of-a-kind itinerary has been carefully crafted to provide an insider's view of life in Cuba. We will enjoy an after-hours tour of and reception at the Ceramics Museum, meet with celebrated artists and leading historians, and interact with local residents to truly experience the culture.

Tour highlights include a look at arts and Cuban cinema, with visits to the Instituto Cubano Arte Industria Cinematographia (ICAIC) and the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA). Enjoy lunch at the home and studio of artist José Fuster in the nearby village of Jaimanitas and see more than 80 houses he decorated to suit the personalities of his neighbors. We will make special visits to the Adath Israel synagogue, the only Orthodox synagogue in Cuba, and to the Jewish Community Center for a briefing by its president. During an excursion to the island's north coast, we will explore the rich AfroCuban heritage of Matanzas and witness the making of the area's famous handmade books. Then, we are on to western Cuba and the Pinar del Río province to learn about sustainable development practices and agriculture. Travelers will tour an orchid farm, walk on a trail within the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve and have lunch at a colonial coffee plantation. We will savor Cuban cuisine during meals at paladares — privately owned restaurants often located in the owner's home — and at a unique "field-to-table" restaurant.

Traveling with intellectually curious Brandeis alumni and friends, you will enjoy thought-provoking conversations with fellow travelers and local people, and gain the insights of your faculty leader. Interest in Cuba is great, and space is limited. Please return the enclosed reservation form at your earliest convenience. For more information, contact Academic Arrangements Abroad at (800) 221-1944 or (212) 514-8921.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patsy Fisher".

F. Patricia (Patsy) Fisher  
VP for Alumni Relations



# Cuba

## Through The Eyes of the People

March 4 - 11, 2017

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 4: ARRIVE IN HAVANA**

Independent flight arrangements to Havana. Upon arrival at the José Martí Airport, transfer to the Hotel Saratoga for check-in. En route to the city, stop at the small hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula to visit Finca La Vigía, the house where Ernest Hemingway lived for twenty years. View the rooms through open windows and see his fishing boat, *Pilar*. Following an introduction by our Brandeis lecture Fernando J. Rosenberg, our welcome dinner this evening is at a *paladar*, a privately owned restaurant often located in the owner's home. D

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 5: HAVANA**

Attend a morning lecture on Cuba's current reality by a former Cuban Ambassador and deputy minister for foreign affairs. Continue to the National Museum of Fine Arts for a curatorial tour of the Cuban art collection. After lunch, late afternoon visits are arranged in the homes and studios of some of Havana's leading artists and at the cultural hub, Casa de las Américas. In the early evening we are invited for a private after-hours tour and reception at the Ceramics Museum, followed by dinner. B,L,D

### **MONDAY, MARCH 6: HAVANA**

Attend a morning lecture by an architectural historian, then depart on a walking tour of Old Havana, focusing on the four main squares: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja and Plaza de la Catedral. Continue to the Taller Experimental de Gráfica, where there will be an opportunity to meet the studio workers and printmakers and purchase their works. Lunch is at a restaurant near the cathedral. This afternoon visit the Adath Israel synagogue and the Jewish Community Center, El Patronato, for a briefing by its president, Adela Dworin. In the early evening drive to the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts for a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace. Invited guests include Cuban artists. B,L,R,D



Old Havana, photo by Andrzej Wrotek



Finca La Vigía (left) and ISA, photo by Theresa O (right)

## **TUESDAY, MARCH 7: HAVANA / LAS TERRAZAS / HAVANA**

During a full-day excursion to western Cuba and the Pinar del Río province, pass through land used for various agricultural practices including sugar cane and tobacco. Arrive in Soroa to tour an impressive orchid farm that is run by the University of Pinar del Río. Later, visit Las Terrazas within the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve where we will meet local residents involved in the arts, organic farming, and sustainable practices within the community. A visit to the house of folk singer Polo Montañez is followed by lunch. Return to Havana in the afternoon. The remainder of the day is at leisure. B,L

## **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8: HAVANA**

Following a lecture on Cuban cinema, drive to Cuba's leading art school, the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA), for an opportunity to interact with professors and students and see their artwork. Enjoy lunch at the home and studio of artist José Fuster in the nearby village of Jaimanitas, where he has decorated more than 80 houses with ornate murals and domes to suit the personalities of his neighbors. After lunch learn about the local film industry with a visit to ICAIC (Instituto Cubano del Arte e Industria Cinematográficos). In the late afternoon, visit Havana's Sephardic Jewish Center. Dinner this evening is at a local *paladar*. B,L,D

## **THURSDAY, MARCH 9: HAVANA / MATANZAS / HAVANA**

Depart on a full-day excursion to Matanzas, stopping en route at the Bacunayagua Bridge, the highest in Cuba, with panoramic views of the nearby valley. Upon arrival in Matanzas visit a farming collective and ecological project to learn about the agricultural community. Continue to Ediciones Vigiá, where handmade books are created, and visit the studio of sculptor Osmany Falcón (more popularly known as "Lolo"). After lunch, a private concert is arranged at the Ermita de Monserrate hilltop chapel, where there will be an opportunity to talk with the performers. Return to Havana for an evening at leisure. B,L

## **FRIDAY, MARCH 10: HAVANA**

Attend an informal rehearsal of the Contemporary Dance Company of Cuba at the Teatro Nacional, adjacent to Revolution Square. Conclude the morning with a visit to a local cigar factory. In the afternoon, you may wish to see the storied Hotel Nacional, speak with vendors at the Feria de Artesanía (the crafts market), or visit the *camera obscura* for a different view on the city. Arrangements will be made for those who wish to attend services at the Patronato's Beth Shalom Synagogue prior to our farewell dinner. B,D

## SATURDAY, MARCH 11: DEPART HAVANA

Transfer to the airport for the flights home.

B

**DISCLAIMER:** The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Brandeis University and Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA). For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms).

**A NOTE ON FLIGHTS TO CUBA:** AAA anticipates that commercial flights between U.S. gateway cities and Cuba will soon be operational and may be the most convenient and cost-effective way of traveling to Cuba from traveler's home city. It is expected that Cuban health insurance and departure tax will be included in the cost of commercial air tickets. At the time of brochure production, flight schedules and the process for acquiring a visa on your own have not been finalized. AAA will provide up to date information on air travel to Cuba.

Should commercial air service not be available AAA is prepared to offer an air package which includes round-trip flight from Miami to Havana, Cuban visa; Cuban departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80), \$40 processing fee, and one checked bag, at a price of \$625 per person. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.



Bacunayagua Bridge (left) and Ediciones Vigía, Monserrate, Matanzas, photo by Alan Kotok (right)

**PROGRAM RATE per person \$5,895**

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$1,995 (very limited availability)**

### RATE INCLUDES

- Seven nights accommodations at the Hotel Saratoga, Havana
- Meals as per itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, R = Reception); bottled water, beer, house wine, and coffee/tea with included lunches and dinners
- Escorted sightseeing via private motorcoach per itinerary, including services of bilingual national guide throughout the trip
- Entrance fees for all included visits
- Group or private transfers for all participants to/from airport in Cuba
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATE** 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; personal expenses such as laundry, phone calls, etc.; travel insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.





Plaza de la Catedral

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**CUBA THROUGH THE EYES OF THE PEOPLE • MARCH 4 - 11, 2017**  
**RESERVATION FORM**

To secure your reservation, please call Academic Arrangements Abroad at 800-221-1944; or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Academic 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) (business)

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 *Academic Arrangements Abroad*)  Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms) and detailed in forthcoming program documents. I/We agree to full payment by credit card, wire transfer, or check 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required) Date

Signature (required) Date