

# The Essence of the East of Cuba Tour

7-Night Tour of the East - Thursday Departures | May 2021 - October 2021



Issued: 26 May 2020



# The Essence of the East | 7 Night Tour



## Introduction

A 7-night fully escorted tour that has been carefully designed from over 25 years of experience of tour planning in Cuba.

You will gain a fantastic insight into Cuba, one of the most unique destinations in the world. Our fully escorted tour, led by an experienced guide will cover all the most important sights of the Island, but also allow you to discover the real Cuba!

We have included a number of unique highlights into the tour itinerary that most other tours on the market do not offer. These include:

- Visit the hidden gem of Gibara, according to the Guardian Cuba's best kept secret!
- A short trek to La Plata, the former HQ of Fidel Castro's revolutionary heroes, situated deep in the Sierra Maestra mountains
- A visit to Santiago de Cuba, a passionate and revolutionary city, home of the Mausoleum of Fidel Castro
- Two nights in Baracoa, one of the best places to visit in Cuba and not on many itineraries!
- Visit the birthplace of Fidel and Raul Castro at their former farm at Biran

#### **General Information**

- Unlike other tours on the market, this tour is guaranteed to operate every Thursday when there are 2 or more passengers booked, please do check with us for latest availability
- This tour operates year-round offering a great choice of departure dates
- The tour will be guided in English throughout
- This tour has been designed for small groups so to maximise the experience for guests
- Maximum group size can be up to 21, but usually with an average of 4 to 8 guests
- Minimum age required 14 years old
- This tour is designed and created by Captivating Cuba, and is marketed by us, other tour operators and travel agents in the UK & Ireland
- On the last day of the tour, we can arrange for you to continue your journey to the beach resorts of Guardalayaca or further afield

## **Itinerary**







## Thursday | Day 1 - Gibara

On arrival into Holguin Airport you will be given a warm Cuban welcome by the guide and on leaving the airport, there is a short journey to the picturesque small town of Gibara which is located on the north coast of Cuba.

Declared a national monument town, this friendly, hidden seaside dwelling is not normally on the tourist trail. Your first night can be enjoyed in a small boutique style hotel in the centre of this delightful town and dinner will be served tonight in the hotel.

#### Overnight in Gibara.





#### Destination Information | Gibara

Founded in 1817 and delightfully frozen in time, the charming coastal fishing port of Gibara known as the 'white town', boasts an abundance of parks, beautiful architecture and friendly inhabitants, and was recently named by the Guardian as 'Cuba's best kept secret'.

This hidden sleepy gem was declared a National Monument in 2002, and in 2003, one of the coolest Latin film festivals the (https://ficgibara.com/en/), arrived and has made Gibara its home every year in July.

Christopher Columbus once reputedly remarked that the Gibara region was 'the most beautiful land that human eyes saw', although there is some dispute over whether it was the Bay of Gibara or the Bay of Bariay where Christopher Columbus' ships reached during his first voyage to Cuba.

Well worthy of a visit for those in the region.

## Friday | Day 2 - Gibara & Bayamo

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

After a leisurely breakfast there will be a tour of Gibara known in Cuba as the 'Villa Blanca' (white town), with its unique architectural style and beautiful coastal location. The journey will continue to Holguin, formed in 1545 and now one of the largest cities on the island, there will be a tour of the colonial centre of the city famed for its numerous small squares. Lunch will be served in the city and there will be a little free time to explore independently.

Later in the afternoon the tour continues towards Bayamo, a small town known locally as 'La Heroica' due to its long history of revolutionary battles against the Spanish in the 19th Century and Batista's troops during the last revolution. On arrival dinner will be served in the hotel and you can wander through this picturesque and friendly town independently.

#### Overnight in Bayamo.

#### Destination Information | Holguin

Situated in the east of Cuba and the 4th largest city: Holguin, otherwise known as the City of Parks, waits to be discovered. The pleasant plazas, galleries, commemorative monuments, colonial buildings and a few museums lie waiting for explorers, to probe further, beyond the lively public squares, over-sized baseball stadium, parks and shiny vintage Chevy-filled streets to uncover their secrets.

One of which, is the prized Museo de Historia Provincial, nicknamed The Parrot Cage, La Periquera, owing to the green, yellow and red uniforms that the Spanish soldiers who stood guard wore. The most valued exhibit being the Holguin Axe, the head of which is carved into the likeness of a man; it is thought to date back to the 1400s.

The more pious, may appreciate Loma de la Cruz. In 1790, a cross was raised at the summit; a desperate attempt to relieve the city of drought. On the 3rd of May, devotees' pilgrimage to the summit and enjoy a special mass. The stairway, built in 1950, appeals to many with its impressive views, restaurant and 24-hour bar.

An interesting and very typical provincial capital, Holguin is worthy of an overnight stay when exploring eastern Cuba.



#### Destination Information | Bayamo

Antiquated yet dignified, Bayamo, the former capital of Cuba and now the provincial city of Granma Province, embraces the tailormade traveller with its quiescent charms.

Historically, it was notably an insurgent stronghold in the Ten Years' War, from 1868-1878; the desperate conflict nearly destroyed the city. Bayamo is unruffled by its conflict-ridden past; this now sedate city's serenity will charm even the most frenzied traveller.

The Plaza de la Revolucion, amidst leafy walkways, is seemingly tranquil, the serenity is only broken by imposing bronze statue of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, the First War of Independence's champion and an impressive marble memorial of Perucho Figueredo, featuring the lyrics of the Cuban national anthem, which he authored.

Spot the various plazas and monuments and the cathedral; uncover their historical significances. Photograph a variety of significant Cuban figures in the Museo de Cera, waxwork though they may be, they will wow your audiences when you display your photographed journey. Visit Bayamo and appreciate its elegance and relaxed charm whilst uncovering historically significant features.

## Saturday | Day 3 - Bayamo & Sierra Maestra Mountains

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

After breakfast there will be a short orientation tour of Bayamo which will focus on the leafy square of Parque Cespedes, named after the 'Father of Cuba', Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, born overlooking the square. In fact, he announced Cuba's first independence from Spanish rule in the same square in 1868!

After the tour you will travel deep into the Sierra Maestra Mountains, passing small farmhouses and villages with wonderful mountain scenery. Later in the morning, you will arrive at Villa Santo Domingo, nestling deep in the mountains with views to Cuba's highest and most sacred mountain, Pico Turquino.

Upon arrival, the jeeps will take you higher into the mountains for a walk deep into the forests to La Plata\*\*, the former HQ of Fidel Castro's revolutionary heroes. You can see the various hidden buildings including Fidel's actual house and the radio station from where they launched the Revolution. Continuing the trail, there is an option to visit the tiny mountain community of La Platica.

Upon your return to the village lunch will be served, then there will be a little time to relax and explore or wander up the river and watch the day draw to a close over the mountains, before taking dinner at the hotel and settling into a night at the small hotel deep in the Cuban mountains, a most relaxing and peaceful location.

\*\*A considerable amount of walking and hiking is involved so a decent level of fitness and mobility is required. The La Plata walk is approximately a 6km round trip. The terrain around Comandancia de la Plata can be uneven, rocky and possibly muddy (especially after rain) with some fairly steep climbs. For guests not wanting to take part in this day due to a concern of it being too challenging, it is possible to relax instead at Villa Santo Domingo whilst others take part.

#### Overnight in Sierra Maestra.







#### Destination Information – The Sierra Maestra

The Sierra Maestra is Cuba's largest mountain range. Located in the south east of Cuba a few hour's drive from Santiago De Cuba, it once served as a refuge for the Cuban revolutionaries. Today, these striking, colossal sierras house a spectacular range of colourful birds, many of which can only be seen in Cuba. The panoramic views from the top of these majestic mountains command reverence; the beautiful and tranquil surroundings must be admired.

The more adventurous and energetic will test their endurance with a trek to Pico Turquino, the revered highest peak in Cuba. This test of endurance starts at approximately 5am lasting a minimum of 12 hours for experienced trekkers, but with the chance for an overnight stay, in a hut high up in the mountains on the ascent. Those taking the challenge will be rewarded; the brave mountaineers will witness spectacular views of the stunning, serene surroundings and spend the time almost alone in the mountains with their guide and very few other trekkers.

Alternatively, La Plata offers an adventurous and rewarding visit. Venture into the mountains, and attempt to detect Fidel Castro's headquarters, the place where he launched the revolution; its masked by seemingly impenetrable forests.

Or simply stroll along the riverbank and through the tropical forests, take cooling dips in river pools and marvel at the peace of the area.

## Sunday | Day 4 - Sierra Maestra Mountains & Santiago de Cuba

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

After an early breakfast and the chance to stretch your legs around the village and say goodbye to the mountains, the tour will depart for Santiago de Cuba stopping en route at the picturesque church of El Cobre. A famous pilgrimage site in Cuba, the small church nestles in some beautiful natural scenery and is rich in Cuba religious folklore.

On arrival into Santiago de Cuba you will visit the Castillo del Morro a historical fortress offering fantastic views across the Caribbean Sea and the impressive Sierra Maestra mountains. Enjoy a traditional Cuban lunch at a restaurant next to the fortress offering stunning views of the coastal scenery.

The afternoon and early evening tour will include the Moncada Barracks, the location for what many describe as the start of the Revolution and the small Museum that depicts Fidel Castro's attack on the barracks on 26th July 1953.

There will also be a visit to the Santa Ifigenia Cemetery, a most important site in Cuba and the final resting place of Fidel Castro, one of the world's most recognised leaders. His simple, but powerful mausoleum is constantly guarded and there will be a chance to stay for the impressive changing of the guard ceremony. The cemetery also contains the final resting place of Cuba's national hero Jose Marti, as well as a number of other important revolutionary and historical figures including the Bacardi family.

Parque Cespedes will also be visited surrounded by historic buildings, including the Ayuntamiento, where Fidel Castro gave his victory speech when the revolution was won in January 1959. There will then be a visit to Calle Heredia, one of the city's liveliest streets, Padre Pico Street, made famous by the intense games of draughts played by the locals.

In the evening, dinner will be served in the hotel and the remainder of the evening will be free to relax, or maybe wander independently through the centre of Santiago De Cuba or visit a local music club such as the famous Casa De La Trova.

Overnight in Santiago de Cuba.





#### Destination Information | Santiago de Cuba

Nestled between the Sierra Maestra mountains and the Caribbean coastline, sits Santiago de Cuba; Cuba's second biggest city. This memorable metropolis is considered the 'Cradle of the Revolution'; the place which sparked the uprising and ultimately, it is where Fidel Castro announced its success. Additionally, Santiago is the final resting place of Castro. For those wishing to pay reverence to the revolutionary leader, his mausoleum, placed next to Cuba's national hero Jose Marti is a much-revered resting place, though visitors must adhere to the respectful code.

Fidel Castro launched an attack on Santiago de Cuba because it was reputed that soldiers would be too busy celebrating the carnival to pose any threat to his men. Today, Santiago de Cuba, hosts Cuba's biggest carnival event; retaining its passionate reputation.

At the end of July, for two weeks, the effervescence of Santiago de Cuba can be witnessed: there's an explosion of colour whilst dynamic dancers cavort along the streets to rhythmic drum beats. This awe-inspiring carnival is a time for Cubans to remember their history, community and cultures and it is something which shouldn't be missed.

Music and dance appear hereditary here, many musicians, notably from the Buena Vista Social Club were born in Santiago de Cuba. Additionally, it is the place where the traditional son dance, from which the salsa is derived, began.

Avid readers may note that Santiago de Cuba is the birthplace of the poet Jose Maria Heredia and that the Casa Granda Hotel features in Graham Greene's novel, Our Man in Havana. Enjoy leafing through the texts, whilst sipping on a Ron Santiago, the signature rum of Santiago de Cuba and known to be even better than the famous Havana Club rum.

Historians will, no doubt, relish the opportunity to visit El Morro. This legendary fortress witnessed heroic battles between marauding pirates and King Philip II's men, as the King battled to defend his territory from attack. This building later imprisoned disorderly and disobedient nobles and military personnel.

## Monday | Day 5 - Baracoa

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

Departing the hotel early in the morning, you will take one of the most interesting and spectacular drives in Cuba along the very south-eastern tip of Cuba where at times the scenery is almost desert-like, and then you will take the mountain road called 'La Farola' to Baracoa. Before 1965, Baracoa was reached from Santiago by boat only, but a Revolutionary feat of engineering secured a road across the mountains on which you will travel. The scenery is amazing, and you will make some stops to admire the view. Look out for local farmers selling fresh fruit and cocoa at the roadside!

On arrival into Baracoa a late lunch will be served at the hotel and there will be time to relax and unpack before an early evening stroll through the picturesque centre of Baracoa, reputedly the place where Christopher Columbus first landed in Cuba and where they say the remains of his cross still lie in a local church.

After dinner, you will have the chance to relax in one of the local music bars where you can mix with the locals, some of the friendliest in Cuba.

Overnight in Baracoa.

#### Destination Information - Baracoa

Far from the throngs of everyday life, lies an unspoiled and remote location surrounded by secluded beaches and virgin rainforests. Located at the very eastern point of Cuba, the hidden city of Baracoa is nestled upon the Bahia de Miel, the Bay of Honey and is secluded from the rest of Cuba by majestic mountains. There is only one mountain road to this rugged, unspoiled, first city of Cuba: Baracoa.

This quaint city, discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1942, is steeped in history. The archaeological museum, hidden in a cave, will reveal the secrets of the Taino culture to any avid explorer.

Explore the enigmatic, rustic charm of the city. Travel the cobbled streets lined with colourful, weathered buildings; the only onlookers, a few older residents in rocking chairs watching the world go by.

## Tuesday | Day 6 - Baracoa

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

After breakfast, you will travel to Rio Toa, Cuba's wildest river which runs through a UNESCO protected reserve. There will be a chance to enjoy an exhilarating boat ride up the river through some spectacular scenery of this remote part of Cuba.

The day will continue with a visit to Finca Duaba. Lunch will be served at this Cuban farm which is surrounded by lush tropical scenery and the location of Cuba's cocoa plantations. Take a guided walk through the farm and learn a little more about Baracoa's famous chocolate production.

Late afternoon, you will return to Baracoa with time to relax at the hotel. After dinner, you can enjoy the local sights and sounds of Baracoa at night at leisure!

#### Overnight in Baracoa.





## Wednesday | Day 7 - Santiago de Cuba

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

You will leave Baracoa today and head back over the spectacular La Farola road to the city of Guantanamo made famous globally for two very different reasons, firstly the ballad Guantanamera taken from a poem written by Cuba's national hero Jose Marti and secondly, for the US base and now Camp X Ray only 15 miles from the city. You will stop in the city where you can sense the presence of the nearby base!

Continuing towards Santiago de Cuba on arrival close to the city head to the tiny island of Cayo Granma where a seafood lunch will be served looking out over the sea. After lunch the remainder of the afternoon and evening will be at leisure to enjoy the city independently or relax by the hotel pool.

Dinner tonight will be taken at your leisure at the hotel

#### Overnight in Santiago de Cuba.



## Thursday | Day 8 – Biran & Holguin

#### Breakfast at accommodation.

Leaving Santiago De Cuba after breakfast you will head north across the island towards Holguin province. An interesting road that, after leaving the motorway, passes through many pleasant towns and villages before you stop at the tiny village of Biran in the foothills of the Nipe Mountains. Biran is the birthplace of Fidel and Raul Castro who both became iconic world leaders and you will see the house where the brothers were born, which is also the final resting place of their parents. Lunch today will be served en-route to Holguin.

After a tour of Biran the journey will continue to Holguin where those leaving from Holguin and those heading to the beaches at Guardalavaca will be transferred to their chosen hotel. There can also be options to fly to Havana or Miami and then to onward destinations.

#### End of Tour.

Please talk to us to get inspiration and discuss ideas if you wish to continue your holiday.

## **Important Information**

- Any timings and order of activities provided are for rough guidance only, and may vary considerably due to local availability, constraints and demand
- As our tours are set up many months in advance, changes can occur to accommodation, restaurants and
  places to be visited as a result of changes in the local provision of services in Cuba. This is especially
  apparent in the winter season as Cuba continues to cope and change as a result of unprecedented global
  demand for the island, as well as a rapidly emerging USA visitor market that is both politically and
  commercially important to the Cuban Government and Tourism Authorities
- Guide services commence (i.e. the point at which the tour becomes 'escorted') from day 1 (Thursday) in the
  afternoon/evening. Guide services conclude (i.e. the point at which the tour stops being 'escorted') in the
  afternoon of day 8 (Thursday)
- Please refer to the end of this document for important information on required mobility and fitness required for this tour. Please talk to us if you have any concerns and we can advise you further

#### **Accommodation Included**

GIBARA
 1 night at Hotel Ordoño / Arsenita / Plaza Colón Gibara on HB basis

BAYAMO
 SIERRA MAESTRA
 SANTIAGO DE CUBA
 1 night at the Royalton Bayamo on HB basis
 1 night at Villa Santo Domingo on HB basis
 1 night at Melia Santiago on HB basis

BARACOA
 2 nights at El Castillo or similar (night 1 FB basis, night 2 HB basis)

SANTIAGO DE CUBA
 1 night at Melia Santiago on HB basis

## **Transportation and Guide Included**

- All transportation as required in the itinerary using fully air-conditioned transportation
- The services of an English-speaking guide from day 1 to lunchtime on day 8

## **Restaurant Lunches and Dinners Included**

Breakfast is included and will be taken at your accommodation.

Day 1 | Thursday
 Day 2 | Friday
 Day 3 | Saturday
 Day 4 | Sunday
 Dinner at hotel restaurant, Holguin
Dinner at hotel restaurant, Bayamo
Lunch in La Plata village, Sierra Maestra
Dinner at hotel restaurant, Sierra Maestra
Lunch at local restaurant, Santiago de Cuba
Dinner at hotel restaurant, Santiago de Cuba

Day 5 | Monday

Lunch at hotel restaurant, Baracoa

Dinner at hotel restaurant. Baracoa

Day 6 | Tuesday
 Lunch at Finca Duaba

Dinner at hotel restaurant, Baracoa

Day 7 | Wednesday Lunch in Cayo Granma

Dinner at hotel restaurant, Santiago de Cuba

Day 8 | Thursday
 Packed lunch or local restaurant close to Santiago De Cuba or Biran

## **Entrances Included**

•	Day 3   Saturday	Entrance to Sierra Maestra National Park, Sierra Maestra		
•	Day 3   Saturday	Entrance to La Plata Revolutionary Base, Sierra Maestra		
•	Day 4   Sunday	Entrance to El Cobre, Santiago de Cuba		
•	Day 4   Sunday	Entrance to Castillo del Morro, Santiago de Cuba		
•	Day 4   Sunday	Entrance to Moncada Barracks, Santiago de Cuba		
•	Day 4   Sunday	Entrance to Santa Ifigenia Cemetery, Santiago de Cuba		
•	Day 6   Tuesday	Entrance to Finca Duaba, Baracoa		
•	Day 8   Thursday	Entrance to Casa de Fidel, Biran		

## **Optional Alternative Accommodation / Upgraded Rooms (Upon Request)**

Prices given are per person per night (pppn)

Santiago de Cuba

Standard 'The Level' Room – additional £35pppn; £45 pppn single occupancy The Melia Santiago has a dedicated area of rooms called The Level, where guests can enjoy a range of unique and special services with their stay. These include dedicated assistance, exclusive lounge access, private bar, 24-hour room service, complimentary access to the exclusive cafe and many other benefits.

## **Tour Extensions**

On the last day (day 8), you are able to transfer to the beaches of Guardalavaca or elsewhere. Alternatively take a flight to Toronto or further afield and enjoy a further break before journeying home.

#### **Tour on a Private Basis**

We are able to organise this tour on a private basis, enabling guests to travel alone with the guide. On a private tour, it can also be possible to tailor the tour further if you require (before departure). Visits can be added, as can duration, or indeed a specialist interest can be catered for. We would be delighted to assist, please ask us if you would like a quotation.

## Journey Times

Approximate journey times by road without breaking to give an indication of travel required. Road closures and other local conditions may mean changes, so please treat as a rough guide rather than definitive times.

	From	То	Hours
Day 1	Holguin Airport	Gibara	45 minutes
Day 2	Gibara	Holguin	45 minutes
Day 2	Holguin	Bayamo	1
Day 3	Bayamo	Sierra Maestra	1.5
Day 4	Sierra Maestra	Santiago De Cuba	3.5
Day 5	Santiago De Cuba	Baracoa	4
Day 7	Baracoa	Santiago	4
Day 8	Santiago	Biran	1.5
Day 8	Biran	Holguin Airport	1

## Not Included

- Breakfast or lunch on arrival day (first Thursday, day 1)
- Dinner on last day (Thursday, day 8)
- Tips (discretionary)
- Drinks (soft drinks/alcohol)
- Services of a porter / assistance carrying baggage
- Laundry
- Telephone calls, WIFI / internet
- Local camera / filming fees
- Costs when on 'free time' e.g. taxis arranged locally or optional extras
- Travel insurance / medical insurance

#### **Important Information**

We operate our escorted tours using small groups. Maximum group size can be up to 21 guests, usually with an average of 8 – 14. Our escorted tours are usually busier/booked full in winter months. Tours run with a minimum of 2 passengers, and once 2 passengers are booked, the tour is guaranteed to operate. We will never cancel a tour due to lack of numbers.

All of our escorted tours include accommodation, air-conditioned transportation, services of an English-speaking guide, restaurants for dinner and lunch, and entrances to the places we visit (please refer to the tour inclusions for more specific information on exactly what is included/excluded).

Drivers, local staff at accommodation, attractions/places visited, restaurants/bars and local/specialist guides that you may encounter may not speak English (or languages other than Spanish). Your English-speaking tour guide is there to assist on these occasions.

If you are planning on booking our 2-week 'Ultimate Cuba' tour, please be aware that this is made up of our two 1-week tours booked back-to-back therefore there may be different people and/or more/less guests on the second week to the first. The same situation applies to the Best of Cuba Tour which is made up of our 7-night Essential Cuba Tour plus 4 nights of the Ultimate Tour.

Please note that as our escorted tours are set up many months in advance, changes can occur to accommodation, restaurants and places visited as a result of changes in the local provision of services in Cuba. This is especially apparent in the winter season as Cuba continues to cope and change as a result of unprecedented global demand for the island, as well as a rapidly emerging USA visitor market that is both politically and commercially

important to the Cuban Government and Tourism Authorities. While we do our best to operate our tours as closely to published itineraries as we can, local conditions, demand for services, delays and availability can change from one day to the next, so tour modifications may be needed with no advance warning.

Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements resulting from previous client feedback, guide/local staff comments and our own findings and research.

Ultimately, we are trying to provide you with the best possible experience, which may not always be immediately apparent as factors unknown to you such as bureaucracy and local availability can affect an itinerary running smoothly.

Our escorted tours are also marketed and sold by travel agents and other tour operators who have their own target markets. Age, nationality, likes/dislikes, lifestyle, and background of our escorted tour guests do vary.

All guests on our escorted tours are required to comply with Cuban law and refrain from any illegal activities, bearing in mind your behaviour may impact on others on the tour. Anyone found to be participating in illegal activities will have their place on the tour cancelled immediately, and no refund or compensation provided.

#### Mobility, Access and Fitness

Our escorted tour itineraries are generally fast paced and will keep you busy, and a considerable amount of walking is involved (including stairs) so an average/decent level of fitness and mobility is required, and you should be physically fit and also able to carry your own luggage. Comfortable and supportive walking footwear is required for all of our tours.

Where tour accommodation is located in a narrow side street where a larger vehicle/bus cannot access easily, or (which may road rules sudden/unexpected for reasons such roadworks or underground as infrastructure work) imposed restrict the driver from pulling up outside, you may be required to walk with your own luggage to the closest access point.

Some casa particular bedrooms and their facilities are accessed by narrow stairways, and lifts/elevators may not be available. If you do struggle with stairs it is important that you let us know at the time of booking, so we can make sure we understand your requirements, and can advise and assist accordingly.

Havana, Trinidad and other cities visited on our tours typically have uneven/high/low kerbs and steps and cobbled streets.

When visiting Vinales, Las Terrazas, and El Nicho, you may be required to climb stairs, walk up-hill and navigate countryside terrain (which may be wet or slippery after rain) so an average/decent level on fitness is required in these locations if you wish to fully participate.

La Plata / Comandancia de la Plata (Day 2 Essence of Cuba Tour, Day 8 Best of Cuba Tour, Day 8 The Ultimate Cuba Tour) A considerable amount of walking and hiking is involved so a decent level of fitness and mobility is required. The La Plata walk is approximately a 6km round trip. The terrain around Comandancia de la Plata can be uneven, rocky and possibly muddy (especially after rain) with some fairly steep climbs. For guests not wanting to take part in this day due to a concern of it being too challenging, it is possible to relax instead at Villa Santo Domingo whilst others take part. Whilst there is an easier trek available locally, we do not include it in the tour due to the La Plata walk being much more impressive and significant historically.

Please ensure you read our booking conditions and Cuba destination advice before booking.



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