



Building Relation with Cuba Labor **April 27 – May 4, 2024**

Provincial Excursion to Santiago **May 4 – 9th, 2024**

Saturday, April 27th 2024

Please plan your arrival in Havana's Jose Marti International Airport (HAV) by 2 pm at the latest. We recommend flights #743 on American Airlines usually arriving 1:40 pm or #5906 on Southwest Airlines arriving at 1:15pm. We will cluster our transfer around 2-2:30pm. If you arrive early or later you can easily take a cab for about \$40 USD.

3:00 pm Check-In to the hotel Gran Aston, a 5 star property on the Malecon water front.

6:00 pm Orientation and Meet and Greet Session with your team from BRCL.

8:00pm Welcome Dinner with invited guest from the CTC, the Cuban Workers Union at La Torre.

Meals Included : Dinner

Sunday, April 28, 2024 :

- 9:00am Meeting with ICAP, the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the People for a discussion on the current relationship between the US and Cuba.
- 11:00m Visit to the Museum of the Revolution if reopened or the Fidel Castro Center.
- 12:30m Lunch at la Calessa Real in Old Havana
- 2:00pm Explanation of the history and development of Havana by an architect/urban planner, explanation of the social and political effects on the development of the Cuban Capital (Miguel Coyula requested).
- 4:00pm Walking tour of Old Havana and visit to the Taller Graffica. Enjoy a guided **Walking City Tour of Havana**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Delegates also have time to engage with Cubans at their art studios, galleries and markets where participants will meet with Cuban artists and find out first hand how artist negotiate between the tourist market, a socialist economy and new opportunities for individual entrepreneurship. Visit the four major historical squares of Cuba. Historian's massive efforts to restore Old Havana buildings, attract tourism and new investment, and improve social services for local residents. See buildings and homes in different stages of reconstruction, meet with neighborhood residents. Learn about how tourism impacts economic good.
- 6:00pm Break to debrief, swim or relax.
- Dinner and Evening are free for personal exploration.
- 9:45pm Join us for live Cuban Jazz at la Zora y El Cuervo!

Meals Included : Breakfast, Lunch

Monday, April 29, 2024

- 9:00 am Learn about labor history in Cuba as we exchange with a member of the **Cuban Workers Confederation, CTC.**

- 11:30am | **Exchange with the Poder Popular** to learn about the new Constitution and political participation in Cuba.
- Lunch | At Urgayas Paladar & social project in Old Havana.
- 2:00pm | Enjoy a cultural interactive exchange with the **Rosario Cardenas dance troupe**.
- 4:00pm | Exchange with the FMC, **the Federation of Cuban Women**, to learn about gender equity in Cuba. Then visit one of their mass community projects like Educa tu Hijo to support women workers.
- Dinner and Evening free for cultural activities.
- Meals Included :** Breakfast and Lunch

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

- 9:00am | Exchange with **FANJ**, the Foundation of Antonio Nunez Jimenez. to learn about Cuba's commitment to sustainability. Here we will learn about climate change & equity, & Cuba's Tarea Vida program.
- 11:30 am | **Learn about Cuba's Biotech advancements & its production.**
- 1:00pm | Free time for lunch at & time to shop in Old Havana at the San Jose de Almancenenes
- 3:30 pm | **Enjoy a dynamic cultural exchange** at the community arts project Muralleando or Quasicuaba.
- 6:00pm | Break.
- 7:00pm | Dinner at Jardin de los Milagros Paladar.
Meals Included : Breakfast and Dinner

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

- AM | **We board the bus at 4:00 am in order to arrive at Revolutionary Square, park, go through security, and find our seats for the March of 1,000,000 workers celebrating May Day. After the March we have lunch and have the rest of the afternoon for a break.**

Meals Included : Breakfast and Dinner

Thursday, May 2, 2024 :

As many of the delegation as the Confederation Of Cuban Workers will allow will attend the International Conference of Labor Solidarity meeting and lunch. Any delegates who can not attend will visit the huge Arts and Crafts market.

- 9:00am Participate today in the **International Conference of Labor Solidarity.**
- 5:00pm Dinner is free.
- 8:00pm We end our day with a community exchange as we learn about the purpose of community blocks known as CDRs, **Committees for the Defense of the Revolution.**

Meals Included : Breakfast, Lunch

Friday, May 3, 2024 :

- 9:00 am Visit to **ELAM the Latin American Medical School** & exchange with students.
- 11:30am Learn about the **Cuban Arts Educational** as we visit the National Ballet School (donations of male & female ballet & point shoes)
- Lunch Reservation
- 2:00pm Meeting with Victor Manuel Lamagne Sanchez and Julio (the new Secretary **General Sindicato Nacional De Trabajadores De** Hoteleria. Y Turismo Cuba) to discuss the impacts of tourism & labor rights.
- 4:00pm Enjoy a private performance of **Grupo Mezcla & Pablo Menendez.**

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8:00pm

Farewell dinner with friends from ICAP & the CTC.

Meals Included : Breakfast and Dinner

Saturday , May 4, 2024 :

8:00am Breakfast

9:00am Check out and depart for the airport.

Meals Included : Breakfast

Provincial Excursion Begins

Saturday , May 4, 2024 :

8:00 am Check out & leave for Santiago de Cuba. Lunch is on the way.

We start our morning with a presentation about the **history of Santiago with the City Historian.**

3:00pm Enjoy a photographic walk through central Santiago and end with a guided tour of the **Moncada Barracks**, where Fidel Castro and his revolutionaries staged their failed armed attack against President Batista. It is here that Castro was imprisoned and penned his famous speech, "History will Absolve Me." Then we will visit the Parque Cespedes, and the Loma de San Juan, Siboney

7:00pm This evening check out local music at one of many venues in Santiago.

Meals Included : Breakfast and Lunch

Sunday, May 5th**Santiago de Cuba**

- 9:00 am Today we start with a visit the **Casa de Caribe**, a cultural research institute that houses the Museum of Popular Religions including Santeria and Epiritism. Here we will have a tour and discussion with **Raul Miyares** on the African cultural heritage of Cuba. Here you will learn about the mixing of Christian and African religions and the art that resulted from the mixture. The visit is likely to include a live performance of music and dance.
- 1:00pm **Lunch on your own after our walking tour of historic Santiago.**
- 3:00pm **Afternoon Excursion to the Caridad de Cobre Church**, Here we will explore the National Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Charity. This is the patron Saint of Cuba and a place of devotion for most Cubans. She is also known as Oshun. There will be an overview of Santeria and the history of this popular religion in Cuba
- 7:00pm Dinner tonight is at the beautiful iconic El Morro. You can order off the menu. At the **Restaurante el Morro** you'll enjoy classic Cuban cuisine in a spectacular cliff-side location with its expansive sea views.
- Meals Included :** Breakfast and dinner

Monday, May 6th :**Guantanamo!**

- 9:00am After breakfast we check out of our hotel.
- We are off to a look out of Guantanamo Bay to see the US Naval Base, "Gitmo". The United States first seized Guantánamo Bay and established a naval base there in 1898 during the Spanish–American War in the Battle of Guantánamo Bay. I
- 12:30pm Lunch
- 1:30pm Exchange with a local ICAP representative to discuss the impacts of the US Base here.
- 5:00pm Check into our casas.
- 7:00pm Dinner Reservation.

Meals Included : Breakfast, Lunch

Tuesday, May 7th : Guantanamo!

- 9:00am After breakfast we check out of our casas. Enjoy a **brief city tour** that includes guided tour of the **Museo Municipal del Fuerte Matachín followed to the Church of the Asuncion.**
- Engage with “Third Age” Cubans at a **Casa de Abuelos.** (any medical donations and reading glasses welcome here!).
- 12:30pm Lunch
- 2:00pm Learn about the Cuban Educational System as we **visit a school** and learn about the work of MINED.
- 4:00pm Return to Santiago.
- 7:00pm Check into the hotel.
- Group Discussion Circle** Facilitated by one of your BRCL staff.
- Dinner is free. Join us for **live music at the Casa de Trova!**

Wednesday, May 8th : Santiago

- 9:00am Today we start with a visit to the famous **Cementerio Santa Ifigenia**, where we’ll visit the tomb of national hero **José Martí**, as well as the tomb of **Fidel Castro**
- 12:30pm Lunch
- 3:30pm Exchange with a local **Cenesex** chapter to learn about new LGBT rights & the new Family Code.
- 5:00pm Break to pack or wander the studios of Santiago.
- 7:00pm Farewell dinner!

Meals Included : Breakfast and dinner.

Thursday, May 9th **Departure** **(B)**
Breakfast and transfer to the airport in Santiago de Cuba.

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