



Discover Corps
Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose



CUBA: PRESERVING NATURE'S WONDERS



MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- **Visit one of Cuba's oldest coffee plantations in the western countryside**
- **Discover waterfalls and swimming holes tucked in the jungle**
- **Relax by turquoise waters on a pristine Cuban island**
- **Trek through the wilderness in a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve**
- **Explore Havana's historic neighborhoods on a guided tour**

*Visit Colorful Havana,
Organic Farms and
Secluded Islands on this
Cuban Adventure*

TRIP AT A GLANCE

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard

Havana / Las Terrazas

DAY 1 - Arrive in Havana and travel to the nature reserve of Las Terrazas

DAY 2 - Visit a coffee plantation and trek through the unspoiled countryside

Viñales Valley

DAY 3 - Visit an orchid garden and organic farm in the Viñales Valley

DAY 4 - Enjoy a beach day at Playa de Cayo Jutias on Cuba's north coast

DAY 5 - Explore the plantations of Viñales in greater depth

Havana

DAY 6 - Enjoy a guided tour of Havana's iconic sights

DAY 7 - Discover the winding alleyways and historic architecture of Old Havana

DAY 8 - Return home

Optional Post-Trip Extension: Trinidad & Cienfuegos

DAY 8 - Visit the historic Bay of Pigs site, stop for lunch in Cienfuegos, and have a free night in Trinidad

DAY 9 - Discover Trinidad with a guided tour before a private salsa class and dinner at the Plaza Mayor

DAY 10 - Return home



SIGNATURE JOURNEY



CUBA: PRESERVING NATURE'S WONDERS

OUR PURPOSE

Engage in conservation efforts on the west coast of Cuba, home to some of the best-preserved countryside in the Caribbean thanks to a series of strict environmental policies introduced after the 1959 Revolution. From the colorful reefs off the coast to the biosphere reserves that dot the interior, this is a side of Cuba largely untouched by development. We'll explore the farms, beaches, and landscapes of this region and meet the people who work to preserve it.

Our journey begins in the capital, Havana, before we head west, passing lush green countryside and biosphere reserves along the way. Uncover Las Terrazas, one of Cuba's first eco-villages and coffee plantations. Tour the community and meet with local painters, enjoy a bird watching trek and visit the cool natural pools and waterfalls of the San Juan River. Further west lies the UNESCO-listed Viñales Valley, where we'll tour organic farms, explore the countryside and visit palm-lined offshore islands.

The trip will culminate with two days' exploration of Havana's iconic sights. Explore the city's most famous squares, try some of its best restaurants, and take a step back in time as you watch vintage cars rumble along the Malecón – Havana's famous seaside boardwalk.





HIGHLIGHTS



LAS TERRAZAS

The eco-village and nature reserve of Las Terrazas encapsulates Cuba's pioneering approach to conservation. Built in 1968 as part of a reforestation program, it's a picturesque spot, with the forest cut through by the beautiful San Juan River – you'll explore the area with a guided trek, which is a great opportunity for bird watchers. Las Terrazas is also home to the oldest coffee plantation in Cuba, and learn about the coffee-making process from bean to cup. Take time to savor the bold blend!



THE VINALES VALLEY

Perhaps Cuba's most picturesque spot is the serene Viñales Valley, a peaceful area of karst cliffs, fertile farmland and traditional communities. The bounty of this land includes tobacco, bananas, sugarcane and coffee, and you'll get the chance to meet local residents and learn about their life and work. We'll also enjoy lunch at an organic farm, visit a beautiful orchid garden, and explore the Cueva del Indio, an ancient river cave.



OLD HAVANA

Nowhere in Cuba is more evocative than Old Havana, the historic downtown of the country's capital. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is home to colonial plazas networked by cobbled alleys, impressive cathedrals, and the iconic seafront esplanade that is the Malecón. Other highlights include the imposing La Cabaña, an impressive Spanish fortress dating from the 18th century, while cultural attractions include the National Museum of Cuban Fine Arts.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Touch down in Havana and Head West to Las Terrazas

Arrive in Havana and meet your Discover Corps group before we hit the road to Las Terrazas, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in the heart of the Cuban countryside. There will be a small welcome dinner on the first evening with the local staff, introducing you to the dynamic, yet laid-back vibe of the island. (L,D)

DAY 2: Explore the Countryside and Tour a Coffee Plantation

This morning starts with a treat as we enjoy freshly prepared coffee and vegetarian food sourced directly from the valley. Then, we visit one of Cuba's first coffee plantations, venture out on a guided bird watching trek, and meet with artisans from the small eco-village that continues to thrive here. Visit the famous San Juan River to soak in the waterfalls and natural swimming pools. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Discover Ecological Farming in the Viñales Valley

Today we discover what is possibly the most enchanting region of Cuba - the Viñales Valley. Huge rocky cliffs line the lush valley, dotted with small farms and traditional villages. Spend the morning at one of the largest orchid gardens in Cuba followed by a visit to an agro-ecological farm where you will see Cuba's organic farming heritage in practice. Our visit will culminate with a delicious lunch overlooking the valley alongside the staff of the farm, before a guided tour of the town. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: Explore Playa de Cayo Jutias

It's a picture-postcard tropical beach day as we visit Playa de Cayo Jutias - a paradise of white sand, turquoise waters and swaying palms. We'll enjoy lunch at a small restaurant along the beach together, but otherwise you're free to relax on the pristine beaches or rent a snorkel and explore the sapphire waters of the Caribbean. (B,L,D)



"The schedule, activities, free time, casa, meals, and guides gave us a confirmation of structure and immersion into Cuba. I never felt disconnected from the people and their everyday lives." - Denzil M.



DAY 5: Delve deeper into the Viñales Valley

We start this morning with a trek through the Viñales Valley, passing coffee, tobacco, sugarcane and banana plantations and meeting local residents. After lunch, explore the Cueva del Indio, an ancient cave with a meandering river flowing right through the cave. A private botanical garden tour followed by a lovely dinner in the center of town will cap off a wonderful five days in the west of Cuba. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: Return to Havana and Take a City Tour

This morning, we'll return to Havana and enjoy a tour of the city's main sites, including the seaside boardwalk known as the Malecón and the downtown Vedado neighborhood. We'll have lunch upon arrival in Havana, before checking into our *casas particulares*, our home for the next two nights. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: Enjoy a Guided Tour of Historic Old Havana

Today we embark on a guided tour of Old Havana, famous for its colonial architecture, pretty squares and grand cathedrals – like a living museum, history hangs on every corner of Old Havana. We'll end up at the legendary Sloppy Joe's bar, where you'll learn to make some iconic cocktails including the mojito. Tonight, we'll enjoy a special farewell dinner together at one of Havana's most famous restaurants, La Moneda Cubana. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: Return Home

Today sadly sees the end of your Cuban adventure. After enjoying breakfast together, we'll say our goodbyes and transfer you back to the airport for your flight home. (B)

STANDARD LODGING

You will have the unique opportunity to stay in *casas particulares*, or private homes, while in Cuba. Casas are similar to family-run bed & breakfasts (think AirBnB with breakfast). On this trip, spend your time on the west side of the island amongst beautiful limestone cliffs, or *mogotes*, within the town of Viñales. You'll experience breathtaking views of tobacco fields and nature all around.



OPTIONAL EXTENSION: TRINIDAD & CIENFUEGOS



DAY 8: Depart Havana for Cienfuegos and Trinidad

Heading out of Havana, we'll hit the road to Trinidad, visiting the historic site of the Bay of Pigs invasion along the way. Stop for lunch in the French colonial town of Cienfuegos and for a tour this unique town. We'll arrive in Trinidad for a dinner and then an evening at your leisure. (L,D).

DAY 9: Guided Tour of Trinidad and Salsa Dancing Class

A guided tour takes us through the colorful alleyways of Trinidad, where the sound of horses' hooves drifts through the air and Spanish buildings line tropical plazas. We'll learn a few steps at a private salsa class, before dinner on your own in the Plaza Mayor, which comes to life each evening with live music and dance. (B,L)

DAY 10: Return Home

Today sees the end of your Cuban adventure. We'll say our goodbyes before heading back to Havana to catch our flights home. (B)



Understanding Legal Travel to Cuba

Everything You Need To Know

Discover Corps has always remained a legal way to travel to Cuba because we operate under the *support for the Cuban people* license. On June 4, 2019 the Treasury Department released their updated policy ([read it here](#)), which caused many companies to panic.

In short, the new regulations stopped the use of the *People to People* license as a way to legally travel to Cuba, which was one of the top two most popular licenses utilized in the travel industry. This meant:

- Many cruise lines and companies who were operating under the people to people license will no longer be able to visit Cuba
- Cruise ships can no longer dock in Cuba
- Commercial flights will continue as always to the island, you just need to make sure you are traveling with a company who operate under a legal license.

The *people to people* license allowed these companies to hire government agencies to help plan activities, hire guides, and stay in government-run hotels. Because of Discover Corps unique focus, this was never the way we approached travel to Cuba.



Support for the Cuban People - How Does it Work?

This license truly ensures that you are traveling with the intention and itinerary planned that will help support Cuban micro-entrepreneurs. Discover Corps has always operated under the belief that travel should be an exchange, where we leave the destination a little bit better than we left it. For this reason, our five Cuba itineraries have always been operated responsibly with the intention to make the world a better place – in Cuba, for us that means supporting individual Cuban individuals and businesses, and help grow the private sector in the country.

- **Stay at *casas particulares***, or privately owned bed and breakfasts.
- **Eat at local *paladars***, or privately owned restaurants
- **Spend 8 hours per day engaging in activities that support the people of Cuba.** For Discover Corps, this includes hands-on learning at a local music and arts center, visiting local artist studios, volunteering at a center for special needs children, connecting with local farmers in Viñales Valley, supporting local dance troupes, and more
- **Hire guides and drivers who do not work for a government agency.**

You still need to travel with a tour company in order to travel to Cuba legally, and it is important that you have your paperwork organized. Discover Corps will be able to keep the proper paperwork (receipts and your itinerary) on file for you and help you obtain the correct Cuban visa so you can travel to Cuba stress-free.

If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to let us know! Also check out our [Cuba FAQs webpage](#) for more information.



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8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS

DATE	ADULT	CHILD
August 3-10, 2024	\$3,695	\$3,495
Sept 28-Oct 5, 2024 <i>STS</i>	\$3,695	\$3,495
November 16-23, 2024	\$3,695	\$3,495
December 26-Jan 2, 2025	\$3,695	\$3,495
January 11-18, 2025 <i>STS</i>	\$3,695	\$3,495
February 1-8, 2025 <i>STS</i>	\$3,365	\$3,495
March 15-22, 2025	\$3,695	\$3,495
March 29-April 5, 2025 <i>STS</i>	\$3,695	\$3,495
May 10-17, 2025	\$3,695	\$3,495
June 7-14, 2025	\$3,695	\$3,495
July 5-12, 2025	\$3,695	\$3,495
July 19-26, 2025 <i>STS</i>	\$3,695	\$3,495
August 2-9, 2025	\$3,365	\$3,495

OPTIONAL EXTENSION	\$1295	\$1195
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The above prices reflect the price of double occupancy. Single Room Supplements are \$500 per person and \$295 per person for the extensions. This will guarantee you your own, single occupancy room for the entirety of the trip. If you are a solo traveler and would like us to match you with a roommate of the same gender, please book as double occupancy. See full details on the website page for the trip. You are required to pay the SRS for the extension.

Child prices apply to those 16 years younger at the time of travel sharing a room with an adult.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 7 nights lodging in casas particulares
- All meals throughout the trip (21 total), including drinks
- Pure bottled water while touring
- Bilingual Cuban guides that are there to support, guide, and inform you throughout the trip
- Reliable in-country transportation with experienced drivers
- Admissions and entrance fees to national parks, historic sites and other scheduled events throughout the trip
- \$50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance
- Trip literature
- Turnkey customer support from preparing for your trip to arrival back home

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare
- Cuban Visa
- Tips for Discover Corps guide and driver
- Laundry services, room-service, or phone calls
- One dinner (for the Trinidad & Cienfuegos Extension)

RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY

Trips are limited to 12 travelers and do fill. Reserving a trip with Discover Corps is easy. Simply visit our website and fill out the online registration form and pay a \$365 deposit and \$30 non-refundable booking fee per person. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Travel Specialist, call/text us at (619) 758-3030 or e-mail us at info@discovercorps.com

RETURNING ALUMNI?

We like to reward those who travel with us again and again. Enjoy a \$250 discount off our trip if you are a returning Discover Corps traveler.

CUSTOM GROUPS?

Have a group of 6 or more? We can operate a trip for your group. Whether it's a family reunion, corporate group, alumni association or a professional or student organization, we'll make it easy and turnkey for your group to have an incredible experience.

MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Discover Corps offers monthly payment plan options for all of our trips. Contact us anytime, before or after booking, to sign up for a monthly payment plan or with any questions:

Call/Text: 619-758-3030 Email: info@discovercorps.com

THE FINE PRINT

Child prices apply to those 16 years younger sharing a room with an adult.

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations subject to change with a 60 day notice from Discover Corps.

(B, L, D): Breakfast, Lunch Dinner

Dates don't work? Contact us about adding a new date for the trip.



Our Mission

The mission of Discover Corps is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable travel experiences.

OUR DESTINATIONS

ALASKA	JAPAN
AUSTRALIA	KENYA
BELIZE	MEXICO
BHUTAN	PERU
COSTA RICA	SOUTH AFRICA
CUBA	TANZANIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	THAILAND
EGYPT	UGANDA
GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS	



FAMILY FRIENDLY • SMALL GROUPS • POSITIVE LOCAL IMPACT • DISTINCTIVE LODGING • HANDPICKED GUIDES



Discover Corps
Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose

Visit discovercorps.com/register to place a \$395 deposit down to hold your space, or reach out to us at the contact information below with questions.

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