

Cuba Tour to the Festival del Fuego:

July 2nd – July 10th, 2019

The Festival del Fuego is an annual event on the eastern side of Cuba in the city of Santiago de Cuba. Santiago is known as the cultural heart of the nation where much of the music, dance and African spirituality originates. It is also the seat of the origins of the Cuban Revolution with many historical sites of honor. The Festival is part academic, part drum and dance performance, part ritual, and all deeply cultural, enriching and celebratory

This tour is legal and in compliance with U.S. travels laws



Only 10 spaces are available to enjoy this unique nation whose rich culture and revolutionary history continue to fascinate the world



Our Itinerary in Cuba*

Tuesday July 2nd

Fly to Miami at your own cost

Stay the night at the *Hilton Miami Airport Hotel* or similar at no additional cost

8pm gathering in the hotel lobby to go over travel protocols while in Cuba

Wednesday July 3rd

Early flight from Miami to Santiago

City tour of Santiago to view architectural and historic sites

Check in at the ***Melia Santiago Hotel*** ★★★★★

6:00pm Hosted Welcome Dinner and mojito toast

Receive your ***Festival del Fuego All Access Pass***

Thursday July 4th

10:00am Visit to the historic farmhouse called the *Granjita Siboney* and the *Moncada Museum* to learn about Fidel Castro, the July 26th movement and the origins of the Cuban Revolution

12:00 noon Hosted Lunch

Enjoy the Festival del Fuego Events and Performances!

Friday July 5th

9:30am ICAP (*Cuban Institute of Friendship with the People*) welcome meeting on U.S. Cuban relations and the importance of our visit to friendly relations with the people of Cuba

11:00am Walk up the *Gran Piedra* after visiting *La Isabelica Slave Plantation* (UNESCO Site) where we will learn about the enslaved black girl brought from Haiti to Cuba

1:00pm Hosted Lunch

Enjoy the Festival del Fuego Events and Performances!

Saturday July 6th

Free Day to Enjoy the Festival del Fuego Events and Performances!

Sunday July 7th

11:00am Private Afro Cuban dance class with *Ikache Dance Company* a local neighborhood project dedicated to uplifting opportunities for youth

Enjoy the Festival del Fuego Events and Performances!

Monday July 8th

10:00am Visit to the *Santa Ifigenia Cemetary*, the final resting place of President Fidel Castro, Jose Marti, Frank Pias and other central figures in Cuba's history and identity

11:30am Visit to the *Basilica de la Virgen de la Caridad de Cobra* (Black Madonna)

12:30pm Pay homage at the *Monument to Runaway Slaves (Cimarrones)*

Enjoy the Festival del Fuego Events and Performances!

Tuesday July 9th

Visit the home of Cuban Revolution heroine *Vilma Espin* and meet with the *Cuban Federation of Women* to learn about the role of women in the Revolution and status today

Enjoy the Festival del Fuego Events and Performances!

Wednesday July 10th

Fly back to Miami for connecting flights home

**Itinerary subject to changes once the official Festival schedule is released.*

Cost and Payment Plan:

\$3,500.00pp double occupancy. \$500 non-refundable deposit is due by February 15, 2019. Installment Plan: Pay over time through June 15, 2019. Cost includes R/T airfare from Miami to Santiago **ALL ACCESS** Festival del Fuego Pass, 4 star hotel accommodations in Miami and Santiago, all breakfasts, hosted lunches and dinner as listed on itinerary, all scheduled lectures/ museum/ tour entry fees, in-country transportation, local guide "Sara Daisy", health insurance while in Cuba, departure tax, and travel visa. Cost does not include RT flight to Miami, other meals, tips nor tuition for any students attending this tour. Due to limited space there are NO single occupancy room available.

Requirements:

In 2014 President Obama eased travel restrictions on U.S. travelers to Cuba. Although Trump has rolled much of this progression back, it is still much easier to visit this incredible nation. However, there is still required paperwork for individual visas. *Global Academics* will provide travelers with the paperwork and instructions/support for successful completion—we have never been denied a visa application! ***Vamos a la Santiago para la Festival del Fuego!***

Tour Coordinator and Company:

Dr. Siri Brown served as professor of African American Studies at Merritt College, Oakland, CA. and Professor of Ethnic Studies at U.C. Berkeley and currently serves as an educational administrator in Oakland. Dr. Brown has over 12 years of leading educational tours to the Black world including several to Cuba. She is also owner and operator of **Global Academics**; a research and tour coordinating company specializing in customized cultural immersions for those who want to travel and learn about the African experience.

Call (510) 649-5664 or email tours@global-academics.com for information.

Registration is Open:

Visit www.global-academics.org for on-line registration.

**This trip will sell out fast. Only 10 spaces are available
so...
register early to reserve your space!**

Why Travel to Cuba?

It is now easier to travel to Cuba than in recent years and U.S. Cuban relations are improving giving travelers the opportunity to visit during historic times.

Culturally, Cuba has given the world a blend of African and Latin music and art that pulses through the streets every night in Havana. Cuba has produced major international figures in

literature and fine arts, film, ballet, modern dance and theatre. The country is also renowned for its original rhythms such as the danzón, son, bolero, mambo, cha-cha-cha and more. Cuba's prestigious cultural events attract international celebrities in dance, music, theatre and other arts. Among these events are the Casa de las Américas literary contest, the Havana International Ballet Festival, the Festival of New Latin American Cinema and the International Jazz Festival.

Importantly, Cuba has a literacy rate and health care system that serves as a model for universal access. Education is provided free of charge to all its citizens and at all levels. In 1961, Cuba eradicated illiteracy through the women lead National Literacy Campaign and thus now has a literacy rate higher than the U.S. Cuba's primary health care system is considered unique. Medical services are provided free of charge to all Cubans. There is an extensive network of medical centers (442 polyclinics and 281 hospitals) designed to give free health care to even the most remote locations and most severe cases. The infant mortality rate is 7.2 per 1000 live births and the life expectancy is 75 years both of which are higher than in the US.

