

# III PHOTO MEETING CUBA 2015



THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ART



# 3<sup>rd</sup> PHOTO MEETING CUBA 2015

*... Designed for lovers of art and photography...*

*Your professional photographer guide will show you details that are invisible to the inexperienced eye.*

PROGRAM 11 DAYS / 9 NIGHTS

Date: From 24/07 to 02/08/2015

## 1<sup>st</sup> Day:

Arrive in Havana - Private transfer group (at a specific time) from the airport to "Telégrafo" Hotel in Old Havana, area declared World Heritage by UNESCO.

Hotel accommodation - Dinner at the hotel

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit to the Cuban Photography Exhibition Center where Mr. Roberto Salas, Cuba's operational FIAP member and Mr. Nelson Ramirez, director of the Center, together with a group of freelance photographers will welcome the photo meeting participants. They will also open a collective photography exhibition. The organizing committee will deliver the event official credentials to all participants.

Riccardo Busi, President of FIAP, will give a brief speech.

There will be an informative meeting to discuss details about the trip with the tourist guide and the Cuban photography expert. They will give explanations on history; personalities and actual situation of Cuban photographic art.

Then, there will be a guided walking tour through the historic center including a visit to the scale model of Old Havana historic center to get familiar with the area.

During the tour, the four main squares will be visited: Plaza de Armas, surrounded with an old books, cameras and coins; picturesque market. San Francisco de Asis Square, Old Square and The Cathedral Square. Visitors will have time for the first photo session in a location full of





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heritage buildings linked to the life of local and foreign people. At Plaza de Armas you will enjoy several interesting places like: El Templete (where San Cristobal de La Habana Villa was founded), Castle of the Royal Guard, the former Palace of General Captains. Then we will go to the top of Hotel Santa Isabel to enjoy a panoramic view of Havana bay.

Going further we arrive to the Cathedral Square, to meet the impressive religious building giving name to the square and its surroundings as magnificent examples of Cuban baroque style. After that, there is a must visit to the famous restaurant "La Bodeguita del Medio".

We leave back the wonderful Mojitos at "La Bodeguita" to go to "Floridita", the place chosen by Hemingway to enjoy daiquiris and Cuban traditional music. Nearby we have chance to make a couple of photos of The Capitol and "García Lorca" Theater.

The lunch will take place at "Cafe Lamparilla" restaurant.

At the third square: "Plaza de San Francisco de Asis", we will enjoy a fantastic panoramic view from the basilica's tower.

The Old Square gives you an opportunity to see a special portrait of Cuban architecture, with an impressive variety of styles for wonderful pictures. Right now we have free time to explore the fascinating spaces and shops of this area.

The evening program includes a visit to the largest fortress built by Spain in America: San Carlos de la Cabaña, to enjoy the Cannon Shot Ceremony. It recreates the traditional cannon shot at 9:00 PM, executed by guards characterized like Spanish colonial soldiers. This is one of the most photographed events in the city.

We will have dinner at "La Divina Pastora" restaurant with a beautiful view of the city across the bay.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit a cigar factory, to appreciate the art of handmade cigars.

Now we are going to meet the modern part of the city, including the most interesting places regarding, architecture, culture, and history. Some of them are: The Revolution Square, Columbus Cemetery, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and "Hemingway Marine". There is time for a contact with





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the neighborhood and take a look to Fúster project in Jaimanita. After that cultural exchange we continue to the Exclusive Habana Club to enjoy a cocktail.

The lunch will be at "La Torre"- restaurant, located in the 33<sup>th</sup> floor of the highest building in the city, a privilege place to take a snapshot of Havana.

A bit later we go to National Hotel, a jewel of Art Deco that used to be a place preferred by celebrities during the decade of 1930. Its gardens and the view from the terrace are fantastic.

To meet the Cuban culture in a contact people to people we visit "Callejon de Hammel" project in the heart of 'Cayo Hueso', a neighborhood of Centro Habana, a magical space, example of fusion among African and Spanish cultures.

Dinner at " El Aljibe" Restaurant with typical Cuban cuisine menu

In the evening you have the chance to practice your skills as salsa dancers enjoying the show of the famous "Tropicana" cabaret.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

Excursion to Soroa Waterfall. We will make a break to have a little talk with the organizers of the group in the swimming pool of Villa Soroa. As soon as we finish we continue the trip to Viñales Valley.

Optional visit to "Cueva del Indio"

The lunch will be at Restaurant "Mural of Prehistory" with local food menu.

Return to hotel

Dinner at the hotel.





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## 5<sup>th</sup> Day:

We have breakfast at the hotel and then departure to Cienfuegos Province.

First stop at the Bay of Pigs, located on Zapata Peninsula National Park, the Caribbean's largest wetland, biosphere reserve with a high degree of endemism in plants and animals. It is a stunning natural landscape with historical meaning because of the mercenary invasion that happened in April 1961. There is going to be explanation of battles, and opportunity to take pictures of interesting places.

Lunch will be at the restaurant "Cueva de los Peces", with opportunities for swimming and diving. There is an optional menu with crocodile tail.

There will be a tour to the crocodile farm, including a boat trip on "Laguna del Tesoro" and the chance to drink "Saoco" a popular local cocktail.

Cienfuegos historic center was declared World Heritage in 2005, as a fine example of city planning in neoclassical style during the XIX century.

Accommodation at Hotel "Jagua or Union". Free time to take pictures.

We will have a fantastic dinner at "Valle" Palace with a special lobster menu.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Day:

Photo session at sunrise at Cienfuegos bay

Breakfast at the hotel.

Tour in the historic center walking around José Martí Central Park, surrounded by the most emblematic buildings of the city: Tomás Terry theater, the former School of San Lorenzo; Cathedral of Our Lady of Conception, with its beautiful French stained glass; City Hall and the House of Louis Clouet, founder of the village.

Good taste and elegance are evident on this area with beautiful sculptures like lions and the viewpoint, built in 1922. We will also visit Castillo de Jagua, a fantastic building from 18<sup>th</sup> century and continue to Punta Gorda for watching the wooden houses.





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Lunch at Club Cienfuegos (buffet)

Boat Tour on Cienfuegos bay

Time for photos

Return to hotel in Cienfuegos. Dinner at the hotel

## 7<sup>th</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

Departure from the hotel in mountain trucks to "El Nicho". Arrive to the park; enjoy the natural attractions of the trail: The waters Kingdom, the waterfall, Tide-pool of lovers, Tide-pool of three wishes and Crystal Tide-pool. Typical regional lunch menu will be served at "Los Helechos" Restaurant.

Transfer to Trinidad with several stops along the way for taking pictures of mountains and cliffs on the beaches along the coast on the way to Trinidad, the third village founded on the island in 1513 and declared, along with the Sugar Mill Valley, World Heritage by UNESCO.

Trinidad City Tour organized by the Historian 's Office of the City.

We will visit The Arms Square, the Romantic Museum and Museum of Archaeology, as well as mansions Iznaga and Sánchez-Ortiz.

Visit the Museum of local History, housed in the former Cantero Palace, to enjoy the best view of the city from its tower.

We continue our tour to Sugar Mills' Valley, a historic treasure, including a visit to the famous tower at Manaca-Iznagas farm with free time for taking pictures at sunset.

Overnight at "Brisas Trinidad del Mar" Hotel

Dinner at the hotel

Go downtown to visit "Casa de la Trova" and enjoy Cuban traditional music.





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## 8<sup>th</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

Departure to Havana, in Santa Clara province we will visit a community of immigrants from the Canary Islands founded in the late seventeenth century and also Che Guevara Memorial and the Armored Train Monument.

Lunch at "Los Caneyes" Hotel

Transfer to Havana.

Overnight at hotel Telegrafo - Dinner at the hotel

## 9<sup>th</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

We will have a commercial route that includes a visit to the Handcraft Market in Havana harbor and a tour to the Chocolate Factory. This is time for shopping souvenirs and some hours later we will have lunch at the brewery.

There is going to be an individual selection of photos for printing and to be part of the "Graphic Memory of Cuba"; categories for competition are: Natural Landscape and Cityscape.

Gala dinner at "Parque Central" Hotel

At the Hall of Hotel Parque Central It will take place the closing ceremony of the 3rd FIAP Photo meeting in Cuba, delivering diplomas for the first 3 places of the competition. All participants will also receive a Certificate for being part of the event.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Day:

Breakfast at the hotel

Free time

Lunch at the hotel

Check out and transfer to airport for departure





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## Additional comments

All meals and dinners include 1 drink (water, soda or beer, everything made in Cuba).

A bottle of water per person is included in all transfers.

A local company will be in charge of printing photos for the contest. Professional photographer who will accompany the group throughout the program will ensure the best quality prints. Considering time left till July 2015, conditions concerning equipment may vary, but the best quality it's guaranteed.

## Recommendations:

- Camera with the minimum technical requirements for taking good pictures.
- Lenses from wide angle to telephoto
- Filters
- Tripods
- Triggers
- Memory cards
- Charger

Important: Cuban customs laws only allow 1 camera per person, tax free.

## Comment:

We will have the opportunity to learn about the importance of light and we will also discuss about how to choose the proper equipment to use for landscapes, when and how to use filters, tripods, etc.

We will learn how to select the appropriate location depending on light in a certain time and we will also have chance to discover the best landscapes from Cuban geography.

*Extra material:* Sportswear light, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, sunglasses and insect repellent in mountain areas, forests and beaches. It's also advisable to include a sweater or light jacket for days in the mountains or some unexpected cool days.

We recommend not drinking tap water, to avoid discomfort.





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## Registration:

The time limit for registration is January 31, 2015.

Registration is done by sending the form attached to this email program to [ventas@onlinetours.es](mailto:ventas@onlinetours.es) and making a prepaid reservation 200 € per person, by bank transfer or by credit card (American Express is not accepted).

Full payment of the package has to be done before May 15, 2015. Failure to pay on the mentioned date will mean cancellation of the trip and the amount paid as reserve will not be refunded.

## Bank details:

Title: Onlinetours, Inc.

Bank: La Caixa

Account number: 2100 0709 28 0200265641

IBAN: ES7621000709280200265641

BIC: CAIXESBBXXX

In concept detail: Fotoclick Program (full name)

If paying by credit card, authorization attached must be completed

## Land package prices:

Price per person in double room: € 1,490

Price per person in single room: € 1,690

- Prices include all services listed in the program: accommodation, transfers, tours, lunch and dinner.
- Basic travel insurance mandatory requirement for traveling to Cuba.





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- Price does not include:
- Visa: 22 €
- Leaving the country tax: 25 CUC

Prices calculation is based on a minimum group of 40 people, if this minimum is not reach, rates will be reviewed and may be an increase, in any case you will be informed by February 15, 2015.

If the price increase is not accepted, the customer may cancel the reserve and we will refund the prepaid amount.

In case of cancellation for any other reason, the amount of the reservation will not be refunded.

If the number of people is exceeded, the accommodation may change to another hotel of the same class from same company (Habaguanex).

## Other services:

Booking flights and other services at special prices for the participants:

As Photo meeting participant, Onlinetours gives you the opportunity to hire services at special prices.

Our agency specializes in Cuba, has a wide experience in the Cuban tourist product, we are able to provide you a multitude of proposals that can be used during your staying in Havana, before or after the conclusion of Photo meeting such as:

- International and Domestic Flights
- Hotel stays
- Excursions around the island
- Car Hire
- Transfer to Cayo Santa Maria, Cayo Coco, Cayo Guillermo and Cayo Largo
- Entrance to different shows
- And several tourism products not included in this program.

We may also provide continuity to your trip with flights to other destinations like Cancun, Miami, Mexico City and several Caribbean countries. In case you are interested in hiring any of these services you may contact us at [ventas@onlinetours.es](mailto:ventas@onlinetours.es), referring to Cuba Photo meeting program.

