



Arrangements  
Abroad



# The Art & Architecture of Cuba

A New Year's Celebration

December 27, 2017–January 3, 2018





Dear Travelers and Friends,

This year, bid farewell to 2017 and welcome 2018 in lively Havana. On this exciting program, connect with locals from all walks of life, including artists, diplomats, and museum directors, and experience Cuba's vibrant culture. Greet the New Year with dinner at a popular *paladar* (a privately owned restaurant), followed by optional entertainment at one of Havana's famed music venues.

On a walking tour, experience Old Havana's charming squares, eclectic architecture, and cobblestone streets. Visit Nostalgicar, a classic car workshop where some of the city's finest vintage automobiles are repaired and refurbished. Discover the renovated Gran Teatro de la Havana Alicia Alonso on a private visit and at the renowned Hotel Nacional, enjoy a *mojito* on the terrace overlooking Havana's harbor. Meet emerging artists in their homes and studios as well as at a private reception organized by the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts.

Travel outside of Havana to spend a day in the western province of Pinar del Río, known for its lush tobacco plantations. In the Viñales Valley, we will encounter spectacular caves, underground rivers, and the famous Mogotes, the iconic hillocks of the region. Highlights in Pinar del Río include a tour of a tobacco plantation and lunch at an organic farm.

As part of this people-to-people exchange, travelers are expected to participate fully in the scheduled activities, which have been designed to provide immersion in the arts and culture of Cuba. Accommodations for seven nights are at the elegant Hotel Saratoga, located just steps from the historic Capitolio and Old Havana.

We hope you'll join us for an extraordinary New Year's in Cuba.

Sincerely,

Jim Friedlander  
President,  
Arrangements Abroad

## HIGHLIGHTS

**STAY** at the elegant Hotel Saratoga in Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

**VISIT** the studios of leading local artists and speak with them about their work

**ENJOY** curatorial tours of Cuba's most important museums and arts organizations

**ATTEND** a private dance performance of Rosario Dance Company

**EXPERIENCE** Cuba's warm hospitality and traditional cuisine when dining at some of Havana's finest paladares

women in traditional costumes, Havana,  
photo by Isabelle Chauve



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Old Havana

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27: U.S. DEPARTURE / HAVANA, CUBA

Arrive independently in Havana where you will be met upon arrival at José Martí Airport. Transfer to the Hotel Saratoga, located in the heart of the city and overlooking the steps of the Capitolio and the Paseo del Prado. Meet some of Havana's leading artists over cocktails before our welcome dinner at an iconic *paladar*, La Guarida D

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28: HAVANA

After a morning a lecture by an architectural historian, depart on a walking tour of Old Havana, focusing on the four main squares: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja, and Plaza de la Catedral. Following lunch at a *paladar* near the cathedral, visit the Museo de la Revolución, which vividly describes Cuba's history from Colonial times through the winning of independence to the triumph of the Revolution. At a local design shop, speak to the owners about small business practices in Cuba. Visit Nostalgicar, a renowned classic car workshop, where some of the city's finest vintage cars are repaired and refurbished. Dinner is at El Cocinero, adjacent to Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC), the city's liveliest multi-disciplinary performing and visual arts space. After dinner, enjoy evening entertainment next door at FAC. B,L,D

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29: HAVANA

Visit the National Museum of Fine Arts, where Cuba's history can be traced through the works of its greatest artists. Then discover the renovated Gran Teatro de la Havana Alicia Alonso on a private tour. After lunch walk along the Calle Obispo, Havana's main shopping street. In the early evening drive to the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts, where we will have a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace. Invited guests include Cuban artists. B,L,R,D

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30: HAVANA / VIÑALES

This morning, embark on an excursion to the western province of Pinar del Río, known for its lush tobacco plantations. Explore the unique topography and natural beauty of the Viñales Valley, where we will encounter spectacular caves, underground rivers, and the famous Mogotes, the region's iconic hillocks. Tour a tobacco plantation to learn about the drying and rolling processes, followed by lunch at an organic farm. Visit a local artist's studio before returning to Havana. B,L

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31: HAVANA

On a tour of Havana's architecture view Art Deco to mid-20th-century buildings, including the Bacardi Building (1930), a masterpiece of the Art Deco style. See the highlights of architectural achievements before and after the Revolution, with stops at the López Serrano Building (1932), the Catalina Lasa House (1927) with its interiors by Rene Lalique, and the amazing mid-century Riviera Hotel (1957), a true timepiece of the international style and largely unchanged. In the early afternoon, additional visits to artists' studios are planned. Dinner is at one of Havana's finest *paladares*. Optional New Year's Eve entertainment can be arranged at a number of the city's well-known music venues, including the famous Tropicana. B,D



Viñales Valley, photo by lababayaga



## MONDAY, JANUARY 1: HAVANA

Following a New Year's Day brunch, gather for a lecture on contemporary Cuban society, providing insight into life in this island nation. Continue to explore the vibrant artistic culture of Havana with visits to artists' studios. At the renowned Hotel Nacional (1930), originally designed by McKim Mead and White, enjoy the hotel's famous *mojitos* on the terrace overlooking Havana's harbor before dinner at a nearby *paladar*. B,D

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 2: HAVANA

This morning attend a private dance performance at Rosario Dance Company. Then drive to the Colón Cemetery, whose many monuments commemorate Cuban heroes, statesmen, and novelists. With such ornate tombstones, this cemetery is sometimes called the largest sculpture park in Cuba. Enjoy lunch with a view at *paladar* Vistamar before our visit to the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA), Cuba's leading art school. This complex of five schools was designed by Vittorio Garati, Roberto Gottardi, and Ricardo Porro on the former private country club golf course in the western suburb of Cubanacán. A guided visit of ISA has been arranged, including a chance to view the students' artwork. In the afternoon continue to the Museum of Decorative Arts for a curator-led tour of this extraordinary collection, now housed in a former mansion in the Vedado district. The house was completed in 1927 in the neo-classical style for the Gómez-Mena family. Celebrate our week in Cuba with a farewell dinner at one of the city's top *paladares*, Otramanera. B,L,D

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3: HAVANA / U.S. RETURN

Depart the hotel this morning for Havana airport and the flight home. B

**DISCLAIMER:** *The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms).*

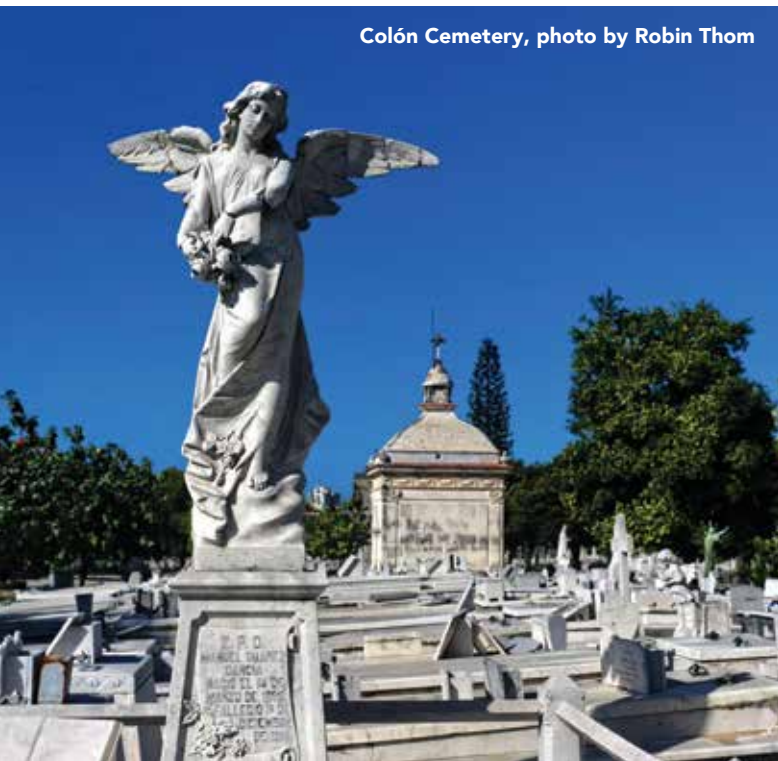
## ACCOMMODATIONS

### HOTEL SARATOGA

Located in atmospheric Old Havana, the Hotel Saratoga is a historic property that reopened in 2005 after an extensive refurbishment that preserved the original façade. Renowned in the 1930s for the international artists and socialites who stayed here, today's Saratoga caters to discerning travelers with interests in history and culture as well as Havana's famous nightlife. From its prime perch on the Paseo del Prado opposite the incomparable Capitolio building, the Saratoga features a rooftop pool, restaurant, and bar with views of the city, as well as a lobby restaurant, mezzanine bar, business center, spa, and fitness center. All rooms have air conditioning, showers and separate bathtubs, hair dryers, makeup mirrors, safes, minibars, telephones, satellite TVs, and DVD players.



Colón Cemetery, photo by Robin Thom



**PROGRAM RATE per person \$8,999**  
**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$1,799**

### RATE INCLUDES

- Seven nights accommodations at the Hotel Saratoga in Havana
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; wine with welcome and farewell dinners
- Havana airport/hotel/Havana airport group transfers for all participants
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service charges, and portorage

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATE** Airfare; Cuban visa; Cuban departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; luggage in excess of one bag; personal items and expenses; travel insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Catalina Lasa House garden, photo by Robin Thom

## THE MUSEUM TRAVEL ALLIANCE

THE ART & ARCHITECTURE OF CUBA ▪ DECEMBER 27, 2017–JANUARY 3, 2018

### RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel room preference  One bed  Two beds  Single (at a supplement of \$1,799)

I wish to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

#### FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*.)  Debit card  Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms) to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date