



Arrangements  
Abroad



## **Cuba by Sea**

Cienfuegos to Havana Aboard *Variety Voyager*

January 24 – February 1, 2019



Dear Travelers and Friends,

I invite you to join me in January for a cultural cruise along Cuba's Caribbean coast. From Cienfuegos to Havana, we will journey aboard a privately chartered yacht, discovering well-preserved colonial architecture and fascinating small museums, visiting talented artists in their studios, and enjoying private concerts and other exclusive events. I'm looking forward to presenting some of my favorite landmarks in their historic context with orientation lectures, and with the help of highly regarded local experts in historic preservation, art, and culture.

In Cienfuegos, view the city's French-accented buildings on an architectural tour before boarding *Variety Voyager* to travel to picturesque Trinidad. Admire the exquisite antiques and furniture displayed in the Romantic Museum and tour the studios of prominent local artists. Continue to Cayo Largo to meet local naturalists, and to remote Isla de la Juventud, to see the Panopticon prison (now a museum) that once held Fidel Castro. We will also visit with marine ecologists on María la Gorda, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, before continuing to Havana for our two-day finale. In Cuba's capital, stroll the cobblestone streets of Old Havana and meet up-and-coming artists at a private reception.

*Variety Voyager* features only 36 cabins and is the perfect conveyance for exploring Cuba. With the ship as our elegant hotel, we will engage with Cubans from all walks of life and enjoy longstanding relationships cultivated by Arrangements Abroad, with whom I have been traveling to Cuba with for many years. Licensed people-to-people programs like this one provide a legal opportunity to visit this incredible country and its people at a time when U.S. travel to Cuba has become more restricted.

I look forward to welcoming you on this singular exploration of a rapidly changing nation, in the congenial company of members of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Queens University of Charlotte, and the Association of Yale Alumni.

During an optional postlude in Santiago de Cuba, follow in the footsteps of the great American painter Winslow Homer, who visited the city in 1898.



Sincerely,

Hermes Mallea

## TRAVELING WITH YOU



**HERMES MALLEA**, is a Cuban-American architect and a partner in the award-winning New York City design firm M(Group). Mallea studied at the University of Miami's School of Architecture and Columbia University's graduate school of Historic Preservation. He is the author of *Great Houses of Havana, A Century of Cuban Style* (The Monacelli Press, 2011), currently in its fourth printing. His second book, *Escape: The Heyday of Caribbean Glamour* (Rizzoli), put Cuba's resort architecture into its historic Caribbean context. His latest book, *Havana Living Today, Cuban Home Style Now*, published November 2017, is a unique presentation of personal expression and authentic Cuban style found today in the homes of Havana's elite. Mallea travels to Cuba frequently to do research and lecture in Cuba on issues of historic preservation. A longtime collector of vintage Cuban photographs, Mallea installed an exhibition of his family photographs in Havana's Museum of Natural History.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**CRUISE** Cuba's Caribbean coast, with its rugged mountains, pristine beaches, and well-preserved colonial architecture

**EXPERIENCE** the French flavor of Cienfuegos, and stroll the streets of lost-in-time Trinidad

**DELIGHT** in the soaring voices of a world-renowned choir during an exclusive performance

**LEARN** about *santería*, the syncretic Afro-Catholic religion practiced by millions of Cubans

**CONCLUDE** with two days in Havana, with a private tour at the National Museum of Fine Arts and a specially arranged reception attended by up-and-coming local artists

# Cuba by Sea

## Cienfuegos to Havana Aboard *Variety Voyager*

January 24 – February 1, 2019

La Guarida, Havana



### THURSDAY, JANUARY 24: DEPARTURE / HAVANA / CIENFUEGOS

Arrive independently in Havana at the José Martí Airport by the early afternoon and join a group transfer to Cienfuegos. Check into your hotel. This evening, enjoy welcome drinks and have dinner at a restaurant by the hotel. D

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 25: CIENFUEGOS / EMBARK

Devote the day to this alluring, UNESCO-listed city, founded by the French and nicknamed “The Pearl of the South.” Admire the splendid Tomás Terry Theater on a guided architectural walk that concludes with lunch at a *paladar* (privately owned restaurant). Attend a private recital by the world-renowned Cienfuegos Chamber Choir. Then explore the internationally recognized Cienfuegos Botanical Garden, or visit a historic cigar factory to discuss the importance of tobacco to the Cuban economy. Embark *Variety Voyager* in the late afternoon for a welcome briefing and dinner. The ship sails overnight to Trinidad. B,L,D

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 26: TRINIDAD

This morning take a walking tour of charming Trinidad, also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the Romantic Museum, filled with exquisite antiques, furniture, and other items once belonging to the local aristocracy. After lunch at a popular *paladar*, tour the studios of local artists and meet a *santería* priest (*babalao*) for a riveting talk on this Afro-Catholic religion, practiced by millions of Cubans. Return to *Variety Voyager* for dinner onboard and overnight at sea en route to Cayo Largo. B,L,D

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 27: CAYO LARGO

Arrive on the tiny island of Cayo Largo for a visit to a local clinic, where we will meet medical staff and observe Cuba’s health-care system in action. Continue to the Sea Turtle Rescue Center for a talk with local naturalists, who gather and incubate thousands of turtle eggs every year, releasing the hatchlings back into the sea. Dinner is onboard as the ship sails to Isla de la Juventud. B,L,D

### MONDAY, JANUARY 28: ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD

Step ashore on remote Isla de la Juventud, at turns a pirates’ hideout (and the inspiration for both *Neverland* and *Treasure Island*), penal colony, expatriates’ enclave, and an experiment in communist education. At the now-shuttered Presidio Modelo, a “model prison” of Panopticon design, we will visit the section where Fidel Castro was held, now a museum. Following lunch, visit an art school (pending scheduling), and explore the main square of Nueva Gerona, the capital. Return to the ship for a lecture and dinner. The ship sails in the evening for Maria La Gorda. B,L,D

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 29: MARIA LA GORDA

Legend has it that this island’s name derives from the story of a beautiful, *zaftig* woman left behind when the place was a popular stop for pirates prowling the Caribbean. Visit Guanahacabibes National Park, one of Cuba’s largest nature reserves, for a gentle hike with a local guide. Savor our last day at sea as *Variety Voyager* cruises overnight to Havana, docking for two nights in the port of Old Havana. B,L,D

Trinidad



**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30: HAVANA**

After morning arrival in the port of Old Havana, join an architectural walking tour through the historic district, where many buildings have been restored to their original splendor. In the afternoon, stop at El Morro for a panoramic view of Havana before embarking on an architectural tour, focusing on Art Deco and mid-century masterpieces. Sample a *mojito* or *Cuba libre* on the terrace of the landmark Hotel Nacional, overlooking Havana's iconic waterfront. We have been invited this evening for a cocktail reception and dinner on the penthouse terrace of the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts; other guests include artists whose work is supported by the Foundation. Later, for those interested, a visit to the Tropicana nightclub or another popular venue can be arranged. The ship is docked overnight in port. B,L,R,D

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 31: HAVANA**

Attend an informal rehearsal of Danza Contemporánea de Cuba, a contemporary dance troupe combining classical

ballet with modern and folkloric elements. Continue to the National Museum of Fine Arts for a curatorial tour of the Cuban collection. Lunch is at La Guarida, Havana's most celebrated *paladar*. Visit the Colón Cemetery, whose ornate tombstones commemorate Cuban heroes, statesmen, and novelists. Enjoy a private, after-hours tour and reception at the Ceramics Museum, housed in a restored 18th-century mansion. Return to *Variety Voyager* for a festive farewell dinner. B,L,RD

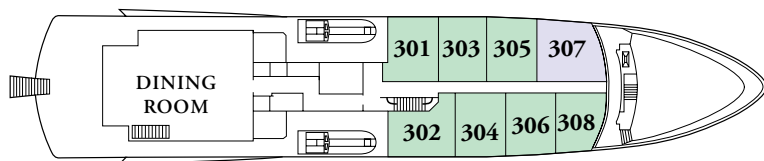
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1: HAVANA / DISEMBARK / RETURN**  
 Disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight. B

**An optional three-night postlude in Santiago de Cuba is offered from February 1 to 4, 2019.**

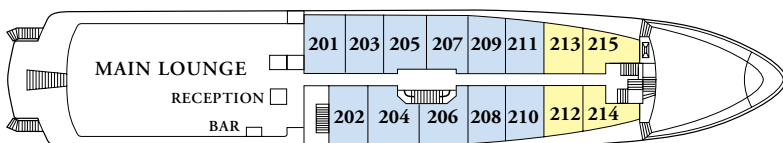
**DISCLAIMER:** The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms)

**VARIETY VOYAGER**

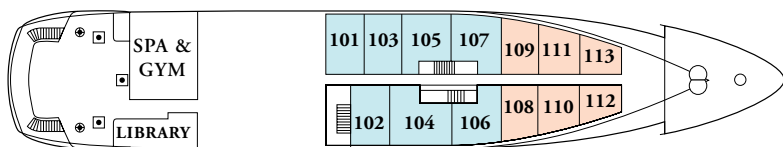
**HORIZONS DECK**



**RIVIERA DECK**



**MARINA DECK**



Christened in 2012, the intimate, 36-cabin yacht *Variety Voyager* features a sun deck and glass-enclosed dining room with panoramic views and an *al fresco* option. The spa and gym offer massage, fitness equipment, and a sauna. All cabins have DVD players, flat-screen televisions, and bathrooms with marble finishing. ■



Sea Cloud II Owner's Suite (left) and lounge (right)

**CRUISE RATES**

Cabin	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
108 to 113	Marina Deck	\$6,999	\$8,399
Staterooms, double bed or twin beds.			
101 to 107	Marina Deck	\$8,999	\$13,499
Staterooms, double bed or twin beds.			
212 to 215	Riviera Deck	\$9,999	\$14,999
Staterooms, double bed or twin beds.			
201 to 211	Riviera Deck	\$10,999	Inquire
Staterooms, double bed or twin beds.			
301 to 306 & 308	Horizons Deck	\$11,999	Inquire
Master Staterooms, double bed or twin beds.			
307	Horizons Deck	\$13,999	Inquire
Owner's Suite, double bed.			

**RATES INCLUDE**

- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Variety Voyager*
- One night hotel accommodations at the Hotel Jagua
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; wine and beer with lunches and dinners
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport transfers for all participants
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities
- Taxes, service charges, and portage

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES** International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; optional Santiago postlude; luggage in excess of one suitcase; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Plaza de la Catedral, Old Havana, photo by Ser

**ARRANGEMENTS ABROAD**  
**CUBA BY SEA ■ JANUARY 24 – FEBRUARY 1, 2019**  
**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**

Sea Cloud II cabin preference (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**OPTIONAL POSTLUDE**

I/We would like to join the optional poslude in Santiago de Cuba

Hotel Room Preference

One bed

Two beds

**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