

CUBA & THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS - CUBA MOTORCYCLE CLUB



TRIP CODE

CUTSCMC6

DEPARTURE

09/09/2019, 07/11/2019

DURATION

7 Days

LOCATIONS

Cuba



INTRODUCTION

This guided Harley-Davidson motorcycle tour takes you off the beaten track, allowing you to immerse yourself in Cuban life whilst enjoying comfortable accommodation every night. The tour combines the delights of varied landscapes and picturesque colonial towns with a fascinating history that revolves around the revolution of Cuba. Discover the underlying beauty of Cuba that is shrouded by a rustic exterior and revealed as you travel around the country on this special 7 day tour.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Havana

On arrival at José Martí International Airport in Havana, you will be met and taken to the VIP Lounge. You will be able to wait here whilst all immigration formalities are completed for you. Beverages are included in the lounge. You will then be transferred to your hotel, with dinner included at the hotel.

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DAY 1: Havana

Cuba's capital Havana is a vibrant city teeming with beautiful if sometimes shabby colonial buildings, once the most heavily fortified city in the Americas. The city was founded by the Spanish in the 16th century and it is now a diverse and fascinating mix of castles, fortresses and Spanish colonial buildings intermingled with modern high rises. The Old City (Habana Vieja), with its narrow streets and overhanging balconies is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the centre of the original city. Soak up the atmosphere as you sip on a Mojito, a refreshing blend of rum, lime, sugar, mint leaves, soda water and ice or maybe sample a Cuba Libre, made with rum, coke and lime.

DAY 2: Havana City Tour

After breakfast at the hotel, we take a city tour to familiarise you with your Harley-Davidson bike as you ride around the various highlights of Havana. The City Tour includes both Old Havana (a UNESCO World Heritage Listed Site) and New Havana. Highlights include the Malecon Habanero, which is some 10 km (6.2 mi) long, Plaza de la Revolución (Revolution Square), Che Guevara's Command Headquarters and the Cabaña Fortress. Lunch is taken in the city before the tour continues to Playas del Este (Eastern Beaches), 20 km (12.4 mi) from the Fortress. At the end of the tour you return to the hotel for dinner. Distance travelled: Approx. 120 km (74.5 mi)

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DAY 3: Trinidad

After breakfast at the hotel we depart for Cienfuegos and a panoramic tour of this beautiful city. Cienfuegos was founded in 1819 around a spectacular natural bay - the only city in Cuba to be founded by French settlers. It is known as the "Pearl of the South" or the "Paris of Cuba". After lunch in Cienfuegos we visit the Dolphinarium with the option to swim with the dolphins. We then depart to Trinidad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the best examples of colonial architecture in the Americas.

Accommodation is at a private hostel tonight with dinner included. Trinidad is a beautifully preserved Spanish colonial settlement built on the back of the sugar and slave trade. At the peak of the sugar industry there were 56 sugar mills in the region. The city is lined with cobble-stoned streets, mansions adorned with Italian frescoes, and troubadours strum their guitars in the square at night. Distance travelled: Approx. 330 km (205 mi)

DAY 4: Trinidad

After breakfast at the hotel we take a tour of Trinidad before departing to Santa Clara via Topes de Collantes (Sierra del Escarambay) (depending on weather conditions). After lunch we visit the Che Guevara Mausoleum and the Armoured Train (Tren Blindado). The Mausoleum is a memorial and houses the remains of Ernest "Che" Guevara as well as a huge bronze statue of him, erected in 1987 to mark the 20th anniversary of Guevara's murder in Bolivia. The adjacent museum houses a collection of photographs of Che as well as guns, medical equipment and letters. The Armoured Train is a national monument and memorial park, created in memory of the events of 29 December 1958 during the Battle of Santa Clara. There is a monument to the bulldozer used by Che Guevara and his fighters to derail the train.

Accommodation tonight is in a hotel in the area, with dinner included. Distance travelled: Approx. 120 km (74.5 mi)

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DAY 5: Varadero


Breakfast is taken at the hotel before we ride to Varadero with a panoramic city tour of the historical city of Cárdenas. Located on the Hicacos Peninsula, Varadero is the largest resort in the Caribbean with miles of white sandy beaches. The afternoon is free at leisure. Lunch, dinner and accommodation will be at a 5* hotel in Varadero (all inclusive). Distance travelled: Approx. 220 km (137 mi)

DAY 6: Havana

Breakfast is included at the hotel, with a free morning to relax and enjoy the beach. After lunch at the hotel we depart for Havana with a panoramic tour of Matanzas and a stop at Bacunayagua, the country's highest bridge on the way Accommodation is at a 5* hotel in Havana, with a farewell dinner included. Distance travelled: Approx. 160 km (99.4 mi)

DAY 7: Departure Havana

Breakfast is taken at the hotel and you are free at leisure until your transfer to José Martí Airport for your outward flight.


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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Standard
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Inclusions	<p>Air-conditioned minivan, with driver and tour guide from Gaviota Tour S.A. Accommodation All meals, lunch and activities as described Motorist Tour Leader Mechanic/tools/spares Comprehensive Motorbike Insurance First tank of gas free of charge</p> <p>Exclusions Visa fees (if applicable) Airport tax (if applicable) Personal expenses Optional activities not mentioned in itinerary Gratuities for staff/guides Fuel cost for bikes (except for first tank) Life insurance (mandatory to enter Cuba)</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff

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bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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