



Havana, Cuba

International Municipal Lawyers Association

A People to People Educational Exchange

Monday, January 25 to Saturday, January 30, 2016

Itinerary Subject to Change

Day 1 Sunday, January 24

Participants will fly independently to Miami and congregate at the **Crowne Plaza** located near the airport at 950 NW Lejeune Road, Miami, FL 33126. 305-446-9000. Accommodations for the night in Miami will be included in the cost of the trip as well complimentary breakfast.

Day 2 Monday, January 25

9:00 am Meet in lobby and depart for Miami Airport. **ABC Charter flight AA9440**, operated by American Airlines. Check-in is located in **Concourse D**. Enter through Door 1 and check-in at the AA counter.

ABC Charters has the following luggage policy: All additional luggage fees must be paid in cash at the time of check-in. One carry-on and one personal item at no charge. 1st checked bag; \$20.00. Each additional checked bag; \$20.00. 70 lbs max weight per bag. 44 lbs allowed free; \$2.00 per pound over (including carry-on). No luggage fees apply on your return to Miami. *Please be aware that in the event of a full flight into Havana you may be required to check your carry-on luggage for an additional \$20.00 fee.*

11:30 am Depart for Havana. Flight time is 1 hour.

12:30 pm Arrive in Havana. Clear immigration and customs and baggage, a process that takes about an hour and a half.

1:45 pm Lunch at the famous **El Aljibe**. Cuban food at its best; the roasted chicken soaked in orange garlic sauce is a favorite, located in the Havana neighborhood of Miramar, home to many embassies and residences of foreign diplomats.

4:00 pm Check-in to **Hotel Parque Central**. This five star hotel is considered the finest hotel in Havana and perfectly located in the central part of Havana. Your bags will be dropped off at the hotel and will be waiting for you upon check-in while we explore the historic area surrounding the hotel.

Hotel Parque Central ★★★★★

Neptuno, esquina Prado y Zulueta, Havana, Cuba Tel. 53 7 860 6627
All rooms include a safe deposit box free of charge.

6:00 pm **The Music of Alberto Faya**. Following dinner we enjoy cocktails at Bar Asturias with a private performance of Cuban music and dance. The band leader is **Professor Alberto Faya** has been working as a musician, professor and researcher within the Cuban musical world since 1973. He has won national awards in music and musicology. He will be joined by several young musicians who will treat us to a lively journey through the history of Cuban music.

8:00 pm Dinner at **La Terraza**.

Day 3

Tuesday, January 26

Complimentary breakfast served in lobby level of hotel from 7:00 am to 10:00 am daily.

9:30 am

CUBA IN TRANSITION: The Rule of Law as part of Cuban Reforms

Lecture by **Rafael M. Hernandez**, a lawyer, historian, author, and editor of *Temas*, a Cuban quarterly in the field of social sciences and humanities. *Temas* is considered the leading intellectual publication in Cuba and an important source of independent thought. He has taught as a visiting professor at Harvard, Columbia, the University of Texas, the University of Puerto Rico; CIDE and ITAM in Mexico, and served as visiting scholar at the Wilson Center (Washington DC) and other US and Latin American academic institutions. He has published widely on Cuban and U.S. policies, inter-American relations, international security, migration, and Cuban culture, civil society, and politics. Rafael co-authored "The History of Havana" and has recently returned to Cuba after role as adjunct professor at Columbia University. This lecture will take place in the hotel conference room.

11:00 am

Walking tour of **UNESCO World Heritage site of Havana Vieja**. Our Cuban tour guide will explain the history of the city as we view prominent buildings and plazas that played a prominent role in the development of Havana as one of the most important cities in the New World. *Please make sure to wear comfortable shoes!*

1:00 pm

Lunch at **Paladar Los Mercaderes**. This impeccably restored mansion is a welcome retreat from the bustling streets of the old city. Enjoy delightful tapas and a selection of seasonal specialties. The affable host Yamil entertains with his charming anecdotes as do the house musicians.

Continue walking tour of Havana Vieja.

2:30 pm

Guided tour of **Escuela de Taller**, a teaching facility dedicated to the restoration of Havana Vieja. This project is preserving the architectural history and cultural heritage of the city by teaching builders, woodworkers, metal workers the skills needed to restore and preserve the authenticity of important buildings. Our guide will be technical specialist Juan Jesus Gesen Musa, who will take us on a tour of the facility and introduce us to students.

8:00 pm

Dinner at **Rio Mar**.

Day 4

Wednesday, January 27

10:00 am

Bufete de Servicios Especializados (Cuban Law Collective)

Topic: Overview of Cuban Legal System

Moderator: Sra. Nuris Pinero Sierra Director, Bufete de Servicios Especializados

This Cuban Law Collective offers various legal assistance and representation to Cuban citizens, legal aliens and Cuban residents living abroad, for the means of arbitration, court hearings, customs, registry and other State institutions. Topics included: the structure of the Cuban legal system, lawyer regulation, dispute-settlement procedures and a description of typical cases handled by the Law Colectivo. We will be joined by several Cuban lawyers who work for the colectivo.

12:00 pm

Lunch at **La Baraca**, located at the iconic **Hotel Nacional**.

1:30 pm

Tour of **Modern Architecture** in Western Havana. Few people realize the important place Havana holds as a treasure trove of 20th Century architecture. Our tour will highlight some of the best examples to be found in this incredibly diverse area of the city where some of its most fascinating buildings were built using different architectural styles. We will visit the Hotel Riviera and the Lopez Serrano Building.

Visit the **Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA)**. One of the few major architectural projects completed in Cuba in the early 1960s, this remarkable post-revolution campus is the premier school in Cuba for students studying music, visual arts and performing arts.

Our guide will be **Architect Universo Francisco Garcia Lorenzo**. Since 1988, Mr. Garcia has been important architect and restoration designer throughout Cuba. As the director of such high profile restoration projects as the Hotel Nacional, Tarara Beach Resort and more recently the National Art Schools Complex, Mr. Garcia has played an important role in designing or restoring many iconic Havana landmarks. His wide ranging talents include landscape design, interior design, acoustical engineering, conservation and historic preservation.

Visit the whimsical fishing village of **Jaimanitas**, transformed by the eclectic artist Jose Fuster and his army of neighbors.

7:30 pm Dinner on your own.

Day 5 Thursday, January 28

9:00 am Lecture by attorney **Gregory Binowsky**. A native of Canada, Gregory has lived in Cuba for 20 years and has a diverse background involving a multitude of commercial and nonprofit endeavors. He is currently the Director of South Horizon Consulting, a Havana based consulting firm focusing on offering strategic advice, business intelligence, and venture options to prospective investors and companies looking at the Cuban market. Gregory will share his personal insights into Cuban society, the political landscape and the fast changing business environment.

10:30 am Attend a private dance performance of the **Compañía Irene Rodríguez**. We will receive a warm welcome by and her company at the **Centro Asturianos**. Irene is considered by many to be the finest flamenco dancer in Cuba. Irene will introduce the dancers, many of whom speak English; describe the history of her own dance career and formation of her independent dance company; and discuss the cultivation of artistic talent in Cuba, opportunities and challenges of being a professional dancer, and the arts more generally in Cuba.

Lunch Lunch at **La Xana**, located in the Centro Asturianos.

LEGAL MEETING – TBD

3:30 pm Lecture with journalist **Marc Frank**. The longest serving foreign correspondent in Cuba, Frank writes for Reuters, the Financial Times and the Economist, and is an authority on the Cuban economy. Frank will offer insight into important economic, political and social issues on the island and share colorful stories about being a reporter in Cuba. This lecture will take place in a conference room at the Parque Central.

8:00 pm Dinner at **La Guarida**, a private home-based paladar made famous in the film *Strawberries and Chocolate*. Evening entertainment options will be provided.

Day 6 Friday, January 29

10:00 am Lecture by **Juan Alejandro Triana**, a faculty member of the Department of Economics at the *Instituto Politecnico Jose Echevarria* (ISPJAE). His research and publications have focused on micro-financing in Cuba and Cuba-U.S. economic relations. Juan will explain the changing government policies regarding privately owned businesses, the changing public perception about making money and the growing interest in entrepreneurship. Other topics will include a short history of Cuban economic model over the last 50 years. *This lecture will take place in the hotel conference room.*

Lunch on your own.

Afternoon activities TBD.

3:30 pm **Lecture by Prof. Carlos Alzugaray** – Former Cuban Ambassador to the European Union and former Director of the Institute of Foreign Relations.
Topic: Professor Alzugaray will give a lecture on the history of Cuban-American relations and explain the current political considerations that are playing a role in the ongoing discussions between the two countries.

6:00 pm Enjoy an unforgettable private performance by the **Orchestra Sinfonica Juvenil** (Havana Youth Orchestra) This group of supremely talented music students represents the finest artists of their generation. The 16 member orchestra, led by Director Jose Antonio Mendez will perform a medley of international classical favorites as well as several Cuban compositions.

8:00 pm Farewell dinner **at San Cristobal**.

Day 7 Saturday, January 30

10:00-11:30 am Visit the **Museum of Cuban Art**. We will be greeted by art historian **Aylet Ojeda**. The museum is dedicated exclusively to Cuban Art from the earliest days of colonialism to the latest generation of Cuban artists.

Lunch on your own.

1:15 pm Check-out of the hotel and depart for the airport. *

3:40 pm Flight departs Havana for Miami on **ABC Charter flight AA9441**, operated by American Airlines. Flight duration is 1 hour.

4:30 pm Arrive in Miami.

* Tips may be given to your Cuban guide and driver at this time. The recommended tip is minimum 5-7CUC per day, per passenger for your guide and minimum 3-5CUC per day, per passenger for your driver.

BE SURE TO COLLECT YOUR BELONGINGS FROM THE SAFE DEPOSIT BOX IN YOUR ROOM

- ✓ PASSPORT
- ✓ VISA
- ✓ PLANE TICKET
- ✓ OFAC LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

Please Note: This is a "Working" Itinerary. There may be some changes, additions and/or subtractions to the Final Itinerary. All venues and artist's studios are subject to final confirmations. Be assured that any changes made will be done to enhance the total program, and to promote a smooth operation of the tour.

Note about Purchasing Art in Cuba: The U.S. Government allows US travelers to bring back an unlimited amount of Cuban art and informational materials such as books and CDs. If you feel you might be interested in purchasing art during your stay in Cuba you should carry additional money to pay on the spot. Your hotel rooms includes a safe deposit box in which you can keep your valuables safe. Acquiring additional money via an ATM machine in Cuba is not possible. Some of the more established artists could possibly have U.S. bank accounts in which the payment can be wired. The art can normally be brought home and payment sent at a future date. Our first recommendation is that you bring additional cash.

