



Cuba Solidarity Campaign
C/o Unite, 33-37 Moreland Street,
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September 2024

Dear Friend,

MAY DAY STUDY TOUR TO CUBA
26 April – 7 May 2025

Thank you for your recent enquiry about the Cuba Solidarity Campaign's May Day Study Tour. We have been offering these popular tours since 2002 and are delighted to be back with the 2025 tour here in association with Cuban tour operator, Amistur S.A.

The May Day Study Tour provides an exciting opportunity to explore some of the country's key achievements in terms of health and education, meet the Cuban people in their neighbourhoods, workplaces and schools, with time to relax and enjoy the local culture and stunning scenery. The highlight for many is participation in the inspirational May Day rally in Plaza de la Revolución. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the real Cuba – urban and rural - away from the usual tourist trails and experience the gains of the Revolution as well as the problems caused by the 64 year old US blockade.

This fascinating Study Tour provides unique opportunities to:

- Attend, by special invitation, the inspiring May Day Rally joined by hundreds of thousands of Cubans in Havana's iconic Plaza de la Revolución, marking this special day in the Cuban calendar.
- Take part in the International Solidarity Conference in Havana with thousands of delegates from across the world
- Visit Pinar del Río and Viñales, set in a stunning landscape in western Cuba, while examining rural social and economic issues.
- Strengthen solidarity links with sister Trade Unions and Cuban Workers' Confederation (CTC).
- Attend a series of related professional visits including an agricultural cooperative farm, local health care centre, family doctor, school for visually impaired children, technical school and rural children's community project to gain a valuable and unique insight into the continuing achievements of the Cuban Revolution and present day Cuban society.
- Examine the challenges facing the revolutionary island as well as the problems caused by the ongoing illegal US economic blockade of Cuba.
- Meet and discuss current issues with Cuban workers in their workplaces and neighbourhoods and representatives of the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC).
- Experience a meeting with Cuban families at a local Committee for the Defence of the Revolution (CDR) community project.
- Visit Che Guevara's former strategic HQ inside Fortaleza de San Carlos in Havana.

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- Have a guided walking tour of Old Havana and the Malecón, and visit the museum of the Literacy Campaign, the National Fine Art museum and Museum of the Revolution.
- Visit the the Ecological Research Station in the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve to explore Cuba's incredible biodiversity and how Cuba is combating climate change and protecting the environment.
- Experience the captivating capital city of Havana and vibrant Cuban culture at first hand. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the real revolutionary Cuba away from the usual tourist trail, experience Cuba's rich and diverse cultural heritage and provide visible solidarity and support to the Cuban people.

The full cost of this unique 11-night tour is £2499.00 per person.

This price is based on sharing a twin room and at least 11 people on the tour. It includes a CSC tour leader from the UK as well as a Cuban tour guide who will both accompany the group. The Single Room Supplement will be £175 per person. In the unlikely event that the group size is 8-10 people there will be a 'small group' supplement of £200 per person. After the first 15 people booking there may be flight supplements to pay.

In addition, if you are currently not a member of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign, we are delighted to automatically offer you one year's free membership as part of your participation in one of our study tours. However, please don't hesitate to contact us if you would rather opt out of this free membership offer.

Accommodation & Meal Plans

Hotel Inglaterra, Havana. 4 star. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 April, 1 May 2025: 6 nights Bed & breakfast
Hotel Vueltabajo, Pinar del Rio. 3 star. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 May 2025: 5 nights Bed & Breakfast
Plus eight meals (lunch or dinner) as per itinerary below.

Flights

Air Europa via Madrid. Stops in Madrid are short and no overnight stay required.
Depart London Gatwick on Sat 26 Apr at 10.00, via Madrid, arrive Havana 19.45.
Depart Havana on Wed 7 May at 21.55 arrive Gatwick 16.25 on Thu 8 May.
26/04/2025 LGW-MAD UX1014 1000-1330
26/04/2025 MAD-HAV UX0051 1610-1945
07/05/2025 HAV-MAD UX0052 2145-1240 +1
08/05/2025 MAD-LGW UX1015 1500-1625

Please note that flight times are subject to final confirmation by the airline.

Transport

Air conditioned transportation with driver and English speaking specialist local guide as per itinerary.

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ITINERARY

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Meals included
DAY 1. Sat 26/04 Havana	Depart London	Arrive Havana. Transfer to hotel.		
DAY 2. Sun 27/04 Havana	Walking tour of Old Havana. Visit to Bellas Artes museum	Lunch at La Calesa Real restaurant. Visit to the Museum of the Revolution		Lunch
DAY 3. Mon 28/04 Havana	Walking tour of Havana Moderna and the Malecón. Visit to the Literacy Museum.	Lunch at Friendship House (Casa del Amistad). Meeting with Cuban Institute of International Friendship (ICAP) Visit to El Morro fort and the Che Guevara Command.		Lunch
DAY 4. Tue 29/04 Havana	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to Abel Santamaría School for children with visual impairment. <u>Socio political visit:</u> Meeting with Federation of Cuban Women (FMC).	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to a Community Mental Health project		
DAY 5. Wed 30/04 Havana	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to a Policlinico – local health centre. Visit to the Fidel Castro Centre, Vedado	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to the CDR Museum	Dinner at 1830 Restaurant	Dinner
DAY 6. Thu 01/05 Havana	Special invitation to attend May Day Rally in Plaza de la Revolución.	Free afternoon to enjoy May Day in Havana		

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DAY 7. Fri 02/05 Havana	Attend International Solidarity Conference at Palacio de los Convenciones (convention centre).	Lunch at the convention centre. Late afternoon transfer to Pinar del Río.	Dinner at Hotel Vueltabaja restaurant in Pinar	Lunch and Dinner
DAY 8. Sat 03/05 Pinar	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to Republica de Chile State Farm in Viñales.	Lunch at Mural de la Prehistoria restaurant, Viñales Followed by free afternoon – sightseeing in Viñales		Lunch
DAY 9. Sun 04/05 Pinar	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to Sierra del Rosario Ecological Station. Ecovida-Centre for Environmental Research and Services in Las Terrazas. Lunch at the local community restaurant	Afternoon – explore local San Juan river, waterfalls, natural bathing areas 5pm return to hotel		Lunch
DAY 10. Mon 05/05 Pinar	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Meeting with Cuban Workers' Confederation (CTC) Pinar <u>Socio political visit:</u> Meeting with ICAP (Pinar)	Free afternoon in Pinar del Rio	Visit to CDR meeting	
DAY 11. Tue 06/05 Pinar	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to Federico Engels Technical School/Pinar. <u>Professional Visit:</u> Visit to a Family Doctor's surgery	<u>Socio political visit:</u> Visit to a Children's Community project in Pinar.	Group farewell dinner at Rumayor restaurant in Pinar	Dinner
DAY 12. Wed 07/05 Pinar	Check out hotel and free morning	Afternoon shopping and free time in Viñales. Transfer to Jose Marti airport to check in for flight (21.45).		
DAY 13. Thu 08/05		Arrive London		

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Itinerary may be subject to change.

What is included: direct return flights with Air Europa from London Gatwick to Havana, UK Departure Tax, 11 night's accommodation (detailed in itinerary) based on two people sharing twin rooms with en suite facilities, Cuban Tourist Card (visa), all meals listed in the itinerary and meal plan, CSC tour leader, services of an English speaking specialist local guide, air conditioned transport as per itinerary in Cuba and entrance to all visits and excursions listed in the itinerary.

What is not included: Travel insurance, transfers to and from the departure airport (Gatwick), Single Room Supplement (£175 per person) if required and any services not listed as included. All drinks are excluded except some included with meals. Any flight supplements (see below).

To confirm your participation please contact Cuba Solidarity Campaign to pay your deposit of £200 per person. Payments can be made by cheque, by card over the phone 020 7490 5715 or by bank transfer (please contact admin@cuba-solidarity.org.uk for details).

The deposit will be used to secure your place and flights and is non-returnable after 18 December 2024.

The balance will be due by 1 March 2025 payable to CSC.

In the unlikely event of the minimum number not being reached all funds received will be returned in full.

Joining instructions, flight tickets and Cuban tourist cards will be sent approximately 14 days before departure.

Please note that all flights are subject to availability at the time of booking. **Should flight prices or airport taxes rise, and to ensure that we are able to maintain our tour costs as low as possible, we would pass these costs on to tour participants, after the first 15 people at this price.**

Please note that regulations from the Cuban Ministry of Tourism require all visitors to Cuba to have a valid travel insurance policy, including comprehensive medical cover. You must check with your insurance provider that the policy is recognised and valid in Cuba. An insurance cover note must be carried to Cuba and presented to immigration authorities if requested.

If you would like to discuss the **May Day Study Tour** in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the Cuba Solidarity Campaign office on 020 7490 5715 or e-mail at tours@cuba-solidarity.org.uk

With very best wishes

Trish Meehan
Cuba Travel Shop
Cuba Solidarity Campaign

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