# JEWISH ROOTS IN CUBA

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# DAY 1 I HAVANA

- Arrival in Cuba at José Martí Airport. Reception by the guide.
- · Lunch at local restaurant or paladar.
- Check-in and accommodation.
- Welcome cocktail at the hotel's Hall of Fame, followed by dinner at La Barraca restaurant with excellent views of Havana's Malecon from its emblematic gardens.

## Meals: lunch, dinner.

# DAY 2 I HAVANA

- Breakfast
- Meeting with staff at the Bethlehem Center, the largest social services institution in Old Havana. The center serves the elderly and homeless children by providing them with food and other basic necessities.
- Guided tour of the squares of Old Havana. Panoramic views of the Palacio de los Capitanes Generales, Museo de Arte Colonial, Calle Obispo, Calle Mercaderes, among others.
- Lunch at a local restaurant or paladar.
- Exchange with specialist Maritza Corrales about Judaism in Cuba.
- Return to the hotel.

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• In the afternoon participation in the Shabbat Services of the Patronage and sharing dinner with the local Jewish Community.

## Meals: breakfast, lunch.









# DAY 3 I IN HAVANA

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit to the Sephardic Center, exchange with its officials and possibility of visiting its gallery with an exhibition of works about the Holocaust. Inside the center is the Hebrew Center for the Elderly, time for a tour.
- Visit to the University of Havana.
- Lunch at a local restaurant or paladar.
- Transfer to the fishing village of Cojímar to meet the local people.
- Visit to Finca La Vigia, Hemingway's home in Cuba, which contains many of the writer's personal belongings.
- Return to the hotel and dinner at leisure.

#### Meals: breakfast, lunch.

# DAY 4 | IN HAVANA

- Breakfast in Havana
- Meeting with members of the Jewish Community of the Beth Shalom Center. The center has a Library, Pharmacy and Sunday School where children learn about Jewish traditions and culture.
- Visit and exchange with members of the Adath Israel Synagogue.
- Lunch at a local restaurant or paladar.
- · Visit to the Jewish Cemetery of Guanabacoa.
- Visit to galleries and artists' studios.
- Dinner at local restaurant or paladar.
- Suggestion: Cabaret Tropicana Show.

## Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.





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## **DAY 5 | HAVANA**

- Breakfast in Havana.
- Visit to a Tobacco Factory, exchange with cigar rollers. Time for shopping.
- · Departure to the Plaza de la Revolución, stop for photos and classic cars.
- Tour in classic cars for 1 hour through Modern Havana, ending in Old Havana.
- Visit to the Museum of the Revolution.
- · Lunch at a local restaurant or paladar.
- · Visit to the Capitol.
- Visit to a community project (Callejón de Hamel, Casa del Niño y la Niña, Muraleando, Todas las Manos, etc.)
- · Return to hotel.
- · Farewell dinner at a local restaurant or paladar.

#### Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

## DAY 6 | HAVANA



- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check-out and accommodation. Departure to visit the community project of artist José Fuster in the Jaimanitas Community.
- Transfer to José Martí International Airport to take flight back to the USA.

#### Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner..





Judaism is one of the oldest religions, and with presence in the island. Cuba has approximately 500 Jewish families and 80% of them live in Havana. Religious life is developed in five synagogues: the House of the Hebrew Community of Cuba, located in the Havana neighborhood of Vedado, groups the largest number of Jewish communities, followed by the Sephardic Center, located in the same locality.

#### END OF TRIP

## MOST NOTABLE ASPECTS INCLUDED:

- Bethlehem Center
- Exchange with specialist Maritza Corrales on Judaism in Cuba.
  Sephardic Center, exhibition on the Holocaust and care center for the elderly.
- Beth Shalom Center.
- Adath Israel Synagogu.
- Guanabacoa Jewish Cemetery

- PLACES OF INTEREST:
- Historic center of Old Havana
- University of Havana
- Finca Vigía, walking in the footsteps of writer Ernest Hemingway
- Community Projects

#### SUGERENCIAS:

- Nightlife options: Tropicana, Parisién, Habana Café, Jazz Club la Zorra y el Cuervo, Gato Tuerto, Jazz Café, Café Taberna, El Tocororo, La Bodeguita del Medio, among others.
- · Light clothing and comfortable shoes for the walking tours
- Hats and sunscreen for the tour in the antique cars, most of them can be convertibles.









**Contact us for more info: Yolexis Torres** Office Manager, Miami



