

CUBA MAY 2018 ITINERARY



PROJECT: Cuba 201805

DATE: Fri, May 25 – Tues, May 29, 2018

On Friday, May 25th our group will depart Miami, Florida (MIA) at 10:35AM on American Airlines flight number AA2741 to Varadero, Cuba (VAR) for a one-hour, nonstop flight. We will spend the first night in Matanzas and the following 3 nights in Havana. Our group will complete 4 water filter projects and then depart from Havana (HAV), Tuesday, May 29 on Delta Airlines flight number DL650 returning to Miami, arriving MIA at 12:34PM.

Thursday, May 24 Some of us will be staying at a hotel near the airport in Miami. Call me if you have any concerns or need help with anything.

Friday, May 25, Day 1 We'll meet our travel agent at 7AM in the Miami airport at the American Airlines counter.

She will give us our visas and plane tickets. A personal bag and a carry-on are included in your ticket. We will assign a few bags of supplies and donations to some of you to check-in under your name. *Cordella and I will pay the baggage fee.* In Varadero, our group will be picked up at the airport by a hired driver who will take us to our hotel so we can check-in and drop off our bags. We will, hopefully, grab a quick bite to eat and then drive to the hills of Matanzas, to the Limonar barrio to complete two water filter projects. *Bring snacks to hold you over until we break for dinner.* Dress comfortably (shorts are fine) and be ready to do some light plumbing work. One project will be at a daycare center and the other will be at an adult care center. After we finish our work, we'll have dinner, relax, and spend the first night in Matanzas. Our hotel is in the center of Matanzas, so there will be plenty to see -- and even take an evening stroll if you still have energy.

Saturday, May 26, Day 2 We will have breakfast in our hotel in Matanzas, get organized, and then take a 3-hour ride to Havana by hired bus. Along the ride, I hope we'll have time to visit the beach in Varadero and stop for a daquiri. Once in Havana, we'll check into our hotel. Depending on time, I hope we can relax a bit. At 3PM, a hired bus will take us to the Luyanó barrio of Havana for our third water filter project. After we finish our project, we'll return to our hotel to clean up and go for dinner.

Sunday, May 27, Day 3 We will have breakfast at our hotel in Havana and then some time to relax. For those who want to join us, we'll visit with the Bishop at the Episcopal Cathedral. Others can explore the area around the hotel or just enjoy some downtime. We'll have lunch and then head out for our fourth water filter project near the center of Havana. After we finish our project, we'll have time to take a taxi ride in one of those classic '57 Chevy's.

Monday, May 28, Day 4 This is our day to tour old Havana. We will have breakfast in our hotel and then head up into the hills, by hired bus, to visit Hemingway's house. We'll drive around and visit monument sites in the capital center of Havana. Then, we'll go to the center of old Havana and take a walking tour for a few hours. There are shops, famous cafés, Art Deco buildings, and historic 15th century buildings dating back to the time of Christopher Columbus and King Phillippe II of Spain. We'll have lunch at a rooftop café overlooking the harbor and then finish up at the waterside market and art shop. We'll return to the hotel to freshen up and then go out for dinner. For those who still have energy, we'll enjoy a night on the town!

Tuesday, May 29, Day 5 We will have breakfast in the hotel and then leave for the airport and check-in for the flight home. We arrive in Miami at 12:34PM.

*****Be flexible...be patient*****

The Clean Drinking Water Team Inc is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization (TAX ID 82-3636663).

All donations are considered tax deductible.

CLEAN DRINKING WATER TEAM INC

7601 Clarke Road ▪ West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

▪ www.cleandrinkingwaterteam.org ▪



PROJECT SITES and WORKING CONDITIONS

Our water filter projects are all indoors. We will be in buildings that have doors, windows, and places to sit -- simple, but comfortable. It will be warm, but we will have cold drinks and take plenty of breaks. There is nothing heavy to lift. The most difficult part of each project will be drilling into the concrete to mount the water system. We will have a concrete drill, so don't worry. Everyone can help carry supplies, assemble the system, connect the pipe, mount the system, photograph the work, and test the water.

DRESS

Dress comfortably. Shorts and t-shirts will be fine when working on our projects. It's just like Florida. Wear comfortable shoes, sandals, or flips. When we walk through Havana you can wear shorts or jeans or go all out and wear your white linen suit and fedora! Bring a hat and/or umbrella, and sunblock.

FOOD

Food will be typical Cuban café fare. Breakfast will be basic -- eggs, toast, fruit, coffee/tea. For lunch and dinner, we will most likely have rice and beans, chicken, beef, Cuban sandwiches, or seafood. We will have plenty of bottled water on hand.

WATER

We don't suggest you drink the water in any location we visit, including the hotels. We will have plenty of bottled water on hand. The hotel in Havana sells bottled water and they will place a bottle of water in your room. Brush your teeth with bottled water.

PACKING

We think you can get by with just a personal bag and a carry-on, but that is your call. We are counting on some extra hands to check-in and help carry 4 bags of supplies and one bag of donations. Bring everything you will need to be comfortable. Bring snacks to get you by while we are on the bus ride or working on the projects. Granola bars and trail mix are great to have.

MONEY

I will have EURO's to exchange into Cuban CUC, to pay for the hotels, bus, and other costs that must be paid in cash. ***YOU CANNOT USE YOUR CREDIT CARD IN CUBA.*** \$200 cash, per person, should be plenty to buy lunch/dinner, a few souvenirs, cigars, take a taxi ride, have a few daquiris. If you need more, you can change money in the airport in Miami or in Cuba. If you convert US dollars there is a 10% conversion fee.

GIFTS

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POSSIBLE SITES TO VISIT

- Hemingway house
- Episcopal Cathedral
- Capital area and buildings
- Hotel Nacional de Cuba
- Old Havana
- Havana Brewery & Craft Market
- El Castillo de los Tres Reyes Mago del Morro (“El Morro”), 16th century, colonial-era Spanish fortress
- Walk along El Malecón
(malecón: a paved, public walkway/stone wall along an ocean, river, lake; an esplanade/seawall)
- Sightseeing ride in a '57 Chevy convertible
- Central park, Revolution square, monuments
- Rooftop restaurant
- Nightclub

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Friday, May 25 Miami – Varadero - Matanzas	Early departure from MIA, arrive VAR, check-in at hotel, 1 hour ride to upper region of Matanzas, water filter project #1, Lunch, Water filter project #2 in Limonar, water testing, Dinner, relax at hotel
Saturday, May 26 Havana	Breakfast at hotel, visit Varadero beach, bus to Havana, check-in at hotel, Lunch, Luyano water filter project #3, water testing, Dinner, relax
Sunday Havana	Breakfast in hotel, Havana water filter project #4, water testing, Dinner, relax, Malicone waterfront, taxi rides, optional night time outing
Monday Havana	Breakfast in hotel, finish water projects, Old Havana tour, Lunch, free time, relax, Dinner, National Hotel visit, optional night time outing
Tuesday, May 29 HAV - MIA	Breakfast, HAV airport, depart for Miami

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