

Sunnyvale Senior Center presents

Colonial Cities of CUBA

Featuring Camagüey, Trinidad, Cienfuegos & Havana



\$100* Early Booking Discount!

Deposit must be received by September 2, 2014.

March 21 - 29, 2015

 **City of Sunnyvale**
Department of Library and Community Services
Community Services Division



Day 1: Sat., Mar. 21 - Arrive Miami

Arrive in Miami and transfer to your Miami airport hotel. This evening an Informational Briefing will be held at the hotel about the day 2 charter flight to **Camagüey** and the start of your people to people experience to Cuba. The evening is at leisure.

Overnight: Miami

Day 2: Sun., Mar. 22 - Miami - Flight to Camagüey Cuba

Early this morning transfer to the Miami International Airport and check in for your flight to **Camagüey**, Cuba's third-largest city. Upon arrival, clear custom's and meet your professional bilingual Cuban guide. Enjoy a walking tour of **Camagüey**, nicknamed the "City of Squares," for its restored plazas. It is also one of the first seven villages founded by the Spaniards and declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. After lunch at a local restaurant, join in a discussion with local artists about the inspirations for their work, importance to the community, and how art motivates people. Over dinner, enjoy traditional Flamenco dance and music brought to Cuba by Spanish settlers. Afterward, meet members from the **American Car Association** and enjoy a ride in an old classic American car.

Overnight: Camagüey Meals: (L,D)

Day 3: Mon., Mar. 23 - Camaguey - King Ranch

Today, meet the dancers of the world-renowned **Camagüey Ballet Company**, which has performed in over 40 countries. You'll have a chance to meet and interact with the dancers, teachers and costume makers as well. Next travel to **King Ranch**, an expansion of the famous ranch of the same name in Texas, and its neighboring village, including stepping inside a rural home and school to discuss rural life and education. Then, over a barbecue lunch, an opportunity to interact with the cowboys who call the ranch home. Stop at **Casanova Pottery Studio** to learn about Camagüey's famous *tinajones*, large red pots found outside homes, the symbol of the city. See the traditional way of making them and interact with the artists to learn about the this local process.

Overnight: Camaguey Meals: (B, L)

Day 4: Tues., Mar. 24 - Camaguay - Trinidad - Cienfuegos

Travel to **Trinidad**, the crown jewel of Cuba's colonial cities, founded in 1514 and today a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and charmingly pre-



served. Explore the **Valle de los Ingenios** (Valley of the Sugar Mills). This lush and picturesque valley was once the center of the sugar trade industry and home to Old World haciendas. Stop at the **Manaca-Iznaga Lookout Tower** offering panoramic views of the countryside and try some fresh sugar cane juice. Meet with local community members while here. Next enjoy a walking tour of **Trinidad**, a cobblestone showcase of colonial architecture and pastel-colored houses decorated with wooden shutters and wrought-iron grilles. Caged songbirds outside the home is a Trinidad tradition that is still prevalent today. Interact with the librarian at the local library, built from the estate of an American woman in the early 1900s, and learn about the library system in Cuba and how the facilities are supported. Trinidad is well-known for its pottery. We'll meet a family of potters, who have been passing on the tradition for generations, visit their studio and enjoy a pottery demonstration. Depart Trinidad later this afternoon and arrive in **Cienfuegos** for a two night stay. Dinner is included this evening.

Overnight: Cienfuegos Meals: (B,L,D)

Day 5: Weds., Mar. 25 - Cienfuegos

Cienfuegos was settled by French immigrants more than 150 years ago, and is often referred to as the "Pearl of the South" because of its impressive beauty and colorful history. Enjoy a panoramic overview of its Old Town, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, and a fine example of the architecture of 18th century Cuba. Meet with a local historian to learn about the history of the beautiful **Thomas Terry Theatre**, built in 1889 by Leno Sanchez Marmol and completely in its original state adorned with painted ceiling frescoes. Next enjoy a performance by the local **Cienfuegos Choir or Orchestra** and an opportunity to meet and interact with them to learn more about the musical history of this choir group and the music culture. Next, an opportunity to engage with tobacco rollers at a **cigar factory** and to learn about the importance of tobacco, both culturally and commercially, for Cuba.

Overnight: Cienfuegos Meals: (B,L,D)

Day 6: Thurs., Mar. 26 - Cienfuegos - Playa Giron - Bay of Pigs - Havana

Today we travel through the countryside, passing banana plantations and sugar cane fields. We'll make a brief stop in the town of **Playa Girón** for a guided visit of the **Bay of Pigs Museum**, housed in an old sugar mill and used by Fidel Castro as his center of operations during the 1961 invasion. We'll see many historical artifacts, including a Sea Fury fighter aircraft, photos, and maps which outline each step of the failed plan. Over lunch, join in a lecture and discussion with a local Naturalist. Travel along the Cuban National Highway and arrive in **Havana**, Cuba's vibrant capital city later this afternoon. A stop is made in the charming fishing village of Jaimanitas to visit the incredible home and work shop of world famous artist, painter and ceramicist, **Jose Fuster**, often called the "Picasso of Cuba". He has adorned dozens of houses with colorful ornate mozaic murals and domes. Here we spend time with the Fuster family and staff as well as the local residents of the town to discuss the influence of the artist's work and their lives and community. Check into your hotel for a **three night stay**. The evening is free to enjoy dinner on your own or relax at the hotel.

Overnight: Havana Meals: (B,L)



Highlights & Experiences:

- Camaguey (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
- King Ranch
- Camaguey Ballet Company
- Casanova Pottery Studio
- Trinidad (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
- Thomas Terry Theatre
- Cienfuegos (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
- Cienfuegos Choir or Orchestra
- Cigar Factory Visit
- Playa Giron - Bay of Pigs Museum
- Old Havana (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
- Hemingway's Farm - Finca La Vigia
- Tour Home & Studio of Artist Jose Fuster
- Colon Cemetery
- Museum of the Revolution
- Plaza of the Revolution
- Cuban Institute of Music

Day 7: Fri., Mar. 27 - Havana

Make a stop and learn more about the **Plaza of the Revolution**, the center of Cuban political life and Havana's largest plaza where huge rallies are held. Your guide speaks below the grandiose portraits of national heroes Che Guevara and Camilo Cienfuegos, and gives you time to reflect on the fact that you're standing where millions of Cubans have stood while listening to speeches of Fidel Castro. Next visit the Marqueta Vieja Havana Museum that houses the scale model of the City of Havana and meet with an expert on the city's architecture and restoration efforts. Enjoy a guided **walking tour** of pedestrian only **Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**. See the beautiful Cathedral de la Havana, built in baroque style in 1748 and learn about its preservation and continuous restoration. Cuban writer Alejo Carpentier described the building as "music turned to stone." Next tour the famous **Museum of the Revolution** that displays documents and artifacts, weapons and planes from the revolution. See artifacts & learn more about the Bay of Pigs, the 1961 historic clash that defined US-Cuba relations for decades. The museum is housed in the former Presidential Palace which was the home to Cuba's leaders until 1959. Next visit the **San Jose Craft Market and Art Center** to meet and interact with the local artists to discuss and learn of the importance of their art in Cuban culture. Learn from the artists who share their experiences of pursuing the arts with limited access to materials and funding.

Overnight: Havana Meals: (B,L)

Day 8: Sat., Mar. 28 - Havana

Religion has always played an important role in Cuban society that continues today. This morning enjoy a walking tour with a local historian of the fascinating **Colon Cemetery** (Cementerio de Cristobal Colon), founded in 1876 and named for Christopher Columbus. The cemetery is noted for its many elaborate sculpted memorials and contains more than 500 major mausoleums, chapels and family vaults and is considered by many to be the most ornate necropolis in the world and is the final resting place for noted Cubans including artists, writers, musicians and ballplayers. Today enjoy a choir performance and participate in a discussion with choir members from the **Cuban Institute of Music** and their director. Next enter the world of Ernest Hemingway with a visit to **Hemingway's Farm, Finca La Vigia** (meaning 'lookout house'). This beautiful property hosts the house where the Nobel Prize winner lived with his wife Martha for 21 years. View the perfectly preserved home where many of the Hemingway personal belongings remain intact. View his yacht on display, the Pilar in which he used to patrol for Nazis in the Caribbean waters and featured in his novel "Islands in the Stream". Before dinner, meet a **former Cuban baseball player** and join in a discussion regarding the history and the love of this favorite pastime in Cuba and in the U.S. Enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant this evening.

Overnight: Havana Meals: (B,L,D)

Day 9: Sun., Mar. 29 - Depart Havana - USA

After breakfast, depart for the airport and your return flight to Miami with memories of the **Colonial Cities of Cuba**.

Meals: (B)

Chamber Explorations / Premier World Discovery has been issued a specific license by The Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), which authorizes registered guests of our programs to visit Cuba legally. There are no applications to complete, and your travel with us is fully authorized. Prior to departure, you will receive a copy of our Specific License and a Letter of Authorization which legalizes your travel to Cuba. This itinerary provides a full time schedule of activities that result in meaningful exchanges through people-to-people contact. U.S. law requires all travelers joining this program adhere to the full time schedule and imposes on us the responsibility to ensure such observance.

Inclusions:

- Round Trip Airfare from - SFO
- U.S. Air Departure Taxes/Fees
- Cuba Cancellation Waiver (\$250 pp)
- Hotel & Airport Transfers In Cuba
- 8 Nights Hotel Accommodations
- Professional Bilingual Cuban Tour Guide
- Tour Manager
- Cuban Travel Visa & Cuban Health Insurance
- 18 Meals - (7 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 4 Dinners)
- Interactions & Admissions per Itinerary.
- Baggage Handling - (1 Checked Bag per person)
- Transportation by Deluxe Air Conditioned Motorcoach
- Daily Bottled Water
- Gratuities for Hotel Porters, Wait Staff at included Meals, Step on Guides and All People to People Visits & Interactions

Accommodations:

- 1 Night Miami Airport Hilton or Sheraton Miami Airport Hotel
- 2 Nights Gran Hotel, Camaguey
- 2 Nights Jagua Hotel, Cienfuegos
- 3 Nights Melia Havana Hotel, Havana

Flights, Hotels, Itinerary, Inclusions and people to people visits are subject to change.

Program Rates:

\$4,774 per person/double occupancy
\$5,374 single occupancy

\$750 deposit due Nov. 1, 2014/Final payment due Jan. 6, 2015

****Make your Deposit by September 2, 2014 & receive a \$100 per person Early Booking Discount off your Final Payment.**

COLONIAL CITIES OF CUBA RESERVATION FORM:

MARCH 21, 2015/ BOOKING #85962

Please submit names exactly as they appear on passports:

TSA SECURE FLIGHT REQUIREMENT

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Passport Name: _____ (MM/DD/YY) _____ M F

Passport Number: _____ Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Roommate's Passport Name: _____ (MM/DD/YY) _____ M F

Passport Number: _____ Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone Number _____

Special Diet Needs _____, or Mobility Issues: _____

Preferences: 1) Air: ___Aisle___Window___ 2) Beds: Queen___, or Two Beds___ NOTE: We cannot guarantee preferences.

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

A Passport copy is due with payment and this reservation form.

~This tour includes moderate physical activity. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.~

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND A DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ (\$750* PER PERSON) TO SECURE RESERVATIONS FOR _____ # OF PEOPLE. RESERVATIONS ARE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. PLEASE SIGN UP EARLY TO SECURE YOUR SEAT.

(DEPOSIT OF \$750 PER PERSON INCLUDES THE \$250 pp CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER.) FINAL PAYMENT DUE JAN. 6, 2015

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ (Sunnyvale Non-Resident fee of \$50 pp payable to the front desk at time of final payment.)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHAMBER EXPLORATIONS/ PREMIER WORLD DISCOVERY

(FOR PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD CHECK ONE:) VISA___ MASTERCARD___ DISCOVER___

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

AMOUNT \$ _____ SIGNATURE _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mail Completed Reservation Form to:

Sunnyvale Senior Center
550 E. Remington Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

ph: (408) 730-7360



PASSPORT INFORMATION: A valid U.S. passport is required for this program and is the responsibility of each passenger. Passports should be valid for up to six (6) months beyond the travel dates. All names must be submitted on reservation form above must be exactly as they appear on passenger passports.

The waiver fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The waiver is non-transferable and valid for each applicant only. The waiver does not cover any services not purchased through PWD/Chamber Explorations. Full policy details available. Please note that your cancelled check or credit card statement will serve as your receipt for the policy.

STANDARD CUBAN TRAVEL VISA is INCLUDED (\$75 per person) and is required for travel to Cuba and applies to United States citizens only. In order to process your Standard Cuban Travel Visa & Air Charter Service, several forms will be required with or prior to your final payment deadline. These forms include Charter Air Reservation Form & Travel Affidavit and will be sent to you prior to Final Payment Deadline. Cuban born passengers require a different Visa process which can take from 2-3 months to complete. (additional charges apply)

CANCELLATION FEES: Cancellations not covered by the Cuba Cancellation Waiver OR if the Cuba Cancellation Waiver is not purchased, are subject to the following per person penalties / fees:

INCLUDED U.S. AIR DEPARTURE TAXES/FEES are approximately \$133 per person and are **INCLUDED** in the price of your program.(subject to change)

Cancel up to 75 days prior to departure - the \$250 Cuba Cancellation Waiver is retained.

CHARTER FLIGHT BAGGAGE FEES are not included and must be paid in cash at the airport. At time of printing, MIA-HAV bag fee was \$25 (up to 44lbs.) and there was currently no bag fee from Havana to Miami. (subject to change)

Cancel 74-45 days prior to departure - 25% of total price is retained.

INCLUDED CUBAN MEDICAL INSURANCE: Since 2010, the Cuban government requires that all travelers to Cuba must have medical insurance under an approved plan. This medical insurance is **INCLUDED** in the program price. Some pre-existing conditions are excluded.

Cancel 44-31 days prior to departure - 50% of total price is retained.

CUBAN AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAXES are approximately \$35 U.S. (25 CUC-local currency) and **NOT INCLUDED** and can only be paid in cash at the airport in Cuba upon departure.

Cancel 30 days or less prior to departure/no shows - No refunds.

INCLUDED CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER: \$250 per person and is non-refundable. Payment of the per person Cuba Cancellation Waiver (waiver fee) guarantees full refund on all payments (including deposit), except the waiver fee itself, made for program rates in case of cancellation up to the time & date of departure due to passenger's personal illness (medical documentation required) or death of a member of the immediate family (official documentation required). If the passenger must return early due to personal illness (medical documentation required) or death of a member of the immediate family (official documentation required), payment of the waiver fee guarantees a refund for the Unused Services.

RESPONSIBILITY: Premier World Tours LLC dba Chamber Explorations (hereafter CE) and dba Premier World Discovery (hereafter PWD), whose vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, interactions and transportation, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damages occasioned from any cause whatsoever. (CE)(PWD) will not be responsible for any damages or inconvenience caused by late arrivals, departures and change of schedule or other conditions nor will they be responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time the passenger is not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of this program, and/or passenger. (CE) (PWD) does not hold any responsibility for the conduct of any of its members, hotel, motorcoach, train, airline or other personnel. (CE) (PWD) reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this program at its discretion. (CE) (PWD)&/or its program host / guide retain the right to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, if determined to be in the best interests of health, safety & general welfare of the group or of the individual participant. Arbitration - I/We agree, any and all disputes concerning this contract or any other material concerning the trip, or the trip itself must be resolved exclusively pursuant to binding arbitration in the state of California, pursuant to the then current rules of the American Arbitration Association. Payment of the deposit for this program constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Itinerary and hotels are subject to change. CST #2048841-40. This program is operated by Chamber Explorations.