



Kirkconnell's Adventures

Cuba - Jewel of the Caribbean Botanical Tour

Day 1: Arrive at Havana airport. Transport by taxi (20 minutes) to old, historical section of Havana, where participants will be lodged in a hotel or in a comfortable private house ("casa Particular"), depending on the client's preference, group size and availability.

Night in Havana

La Havana was founded in 1515 named after the daughter of a famous Taíno chief. Close your eyes for a moment and imagine you are there. Waves crashing against a mildewed see wall, a young couple cavorting in the dark, dilapidated alley, guitar and voices harmonizing over a syncopated drum rhythm.

No one could have invented Havana. It's too audacious, too contradictory, and despite 50 years of withering neglect too damned beautiful.

Don't come here looking for answers. Just arrive with an open mind and prepare yourself for a long and slow seduction.

Old Havana and the Fortification System was Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1982.

Day 2: Depart to Holguín by plane.

In the afternoon visit Roca Azul and Las Guanas trails, on the north coast about 50km from the city of Holguín, close to Guardalavaca. Here you can see preserved vegetation of semi-deciduous microphyllous woods and montane serpentine shrubwoods (cuabal) and a strip of mangrove forest. Among the flora, the following species stand out: *Hildegardia cubensis* (guana), *Dendrocereus arboreus* (aguacate cimarrón, flor de copa), other *Cartaceae* and succulents, among the numerous species and life forms that coexist

in a small territory. Among bird species: Cuban Blackbird, Cuban Oriole, Greater Antillean Grackle and Tawny-shouldered Blackbird among others.

Night in Holguin city



Day 3: Departure for Pinares de Mayarí. From the ascent of the La Bandera hill and on the route through the plateau, you can see: vegetation of pine forest with *Pinus cubensis*, a montane serpentine shrubwoods (charrascal) and patches of relics from other forests. Here natural, semi-natural and productive landscapes are combined (mining, forest plantations and agricultural systems). The Sierra de Nipe plateau has richness and diversity of important and even threatened native and endemic species, with restricted distribution, species such as: century plant *Agave shaferi* (maguey), *Euphorbia podocarpifolia*, *Plumeria nipensis* (súcheli, lirio) and *Coccothrinax orientalis* (yuraguana), *Guettarda ferrugínea* (cuero), *Guettarda monocarpa* (cuero), *Guettarda sciaphila* (cuero), *Hibiscus maculatus* subsp. *nipensis* (malva rosa), *Cyrilla nipensis*, *Cyrilla lutgardae* (llorona, yanilla), also several species of the genera *Tabebuia*, *Psychotria*, *Eugenia*, *Mosiera*, *Psidium*, as well as different genera and species of ferns and orchids among others. Among birds are Bee Hummingbird, Cuban Pygmy Owl, Stygian Owl Cuban Green woodpecker, Northern Flicker (with reddish tone), Cuban Tody, Giant Kingbird, Cuban Vireo, Oriente Warbler West Indian Woodpecker and Cuban Solitaire.

Night in Mayarí

Day 4: In the morning visit to the Mirador del Salto del Río Guayabo, tour of the environment to observe the impressive waterfall, the exuberant vegetation of rainforest, pine forests and associated riparian forest, with richness and diversity of native and endemic species such as: *Spathelia cubensis* (flor de peladero), orchids, ferns and bromeliads among others). Then departure to Baracoa via Moa, on this road near Moa you can see: *Hemithrinax rivularis* (guano, guanito) and *Coccothrinax moaensis* (yuraguana). Stop at the Cayo Guam river camping (here you will see riparian forest, submontane seasonal tropical rainforest and relict of pine forests, high richness and diversity of endemic and novel species such as: *Cubanola daphnoides* (clarín de paredón), *Cameraria orientalis* (maboa), *Rauvolfia salicifolia* (corazón de palomas), *Calophyllum utile* (ocuje colorado), *Plumeria ekmanii* (lirio, súcheli), *Purdiaea*

stenopetala, *Purdiaea moaensis*, *Exostema* spp. (vigueta, cinchona, clavellina de río), *Erythroxylum longipes* (arabo, arabo jibá), *Psychotria* spp. (tapa camino, lengua de vaca), ferns and orchids among others, attractive landscapes and a mighty river.

Another stop in Yamanigüey, to observe *Dracaena cubensis* (griñapo), *Schmidtottia shaferi* (esmitotia, three-day flower), *Schmidtottia* spp. (esmitotia, flor de tres días), *Spathelia splendens* (flor de peladero), *Anastraphia recurva* (cardoncillo), *Anastraphia* spp., *Phyllanthus* spp. (rosado, alegría), *Jacaranda arborea* (framboyan azul, abey de monte malo), *Adenaea cubensis*, *Purdiaea velutina*, *Mosiera yamaniguensis*, *Mosiera* spp., *Coccoloba nipensis*, *Coccoloba shaferi* (uvero, uvilla), *Erythroxylum pedicelare*, *Tabebuia* spp. (roble), *Guettarda crassipes* (cuero), *Cameraria obovalis* (maboa pequeñas) and among others, also very attractive landscapes given the different habitats of pine forests, montane serpentine shrubwood, riparian forest that this road crosses.

Our next visit will be Baracoa, after the sun goes down, and time will be able to get a glimpse of this amazing city. It is a unique place with the feel of a small-town atmosphere. Most houses are simple wooden structures, and the flat layout of the town makes for an interesting and easy stroll in whichever direction you take.

Baracoa was one of the first places the Europeans reached in the new world. In 1492 Christopher Columbus recognized the value of the harbor here and christened the town as Porto Santo, and 19 years later in 1511 Diego de Velazquez founded Baracoa for the Spanish. Thankfully, despite their best efforts, the Spanish never wiped out the indigenous population completely meaning there are direct descendants living here, which adds to the town's diversity and pride.



Night in Baracoa



Day 5: Do the trail to the top of the Yunque de Baracoa, includes passing the Toa river, very mighty. On the way you can enjoy different landscapes both productive at the base and natural in the middle, high and top. It is observed from evergreen forests, submontane rain forests, to the vegetation complex of mogotes on eastern karst, among the richness of endemic species and rare species possible to observe are: *Zamia erosa* (yuca, guayara, yuca de paredón), *Erythroxylum baracoense* (arabo) , *Croton yunquesis*, *Ekmania lepidota*, *Talauma oblongata* (marañón de sierra), *Gesneria* spp. (gesneria), *Pilea* spp. (pilea, parietaria, hierba de tejado), *Tillandsia* spp. (curujeyes), *Coccothrinax yunquensis* (yuraguana), *Podocarpus victorinianus* (sabina cimarrona), *Hillia parasitica* (hilia), *Schlegelia brachyantha* guiro macho), *Passiflora cubensis* (pasionaria vejigosa), *Passiflora* spp. (bejuco mantequilla, pasionaria) and *Siphocampylus* sp. among others. Important birds to watch: Bee Hummingbird, Cuban Trogon, Cuban Green Woodpecker, Cuban Parrot, Cuban Parakeet, Cuban Crow, Oriente Warbler, Gundlach Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk (local subspecies, possibly a full endemic species), and you will be in the area of Cuban Kite (?).

Night in Baracoa



Day 6: In Humboldt National Park will visit El Recreo trail or Loma de Piedra trail. Here you can see lowland rainforest, riparian forest on the Taco river, and several species will see: *Magnolia minor* (azulejo), *Manilkara* spp. (acana, almiquicillo), *Tabebuia* spp. (robles), *Coccothrinax* spp. (yuraguanas), *Guibourtia hymenaeifolia* (caguairan), *Exostema* spp. (vigueta, cinchona, clavellina de río, lirio chato), *Psychotria* spp. (tapa camino, lengua de vaca), *Rondeletia* spp. (rondelecia, vigueta blanca, caobilla de Sabana), *Erythroxylum coriaceum* (arabo), *Erythroxylum longipes* (arabo, arabo jibá), *Casearia* spp. (jía, jía peluda, raspalengua, sarnilla), *Eugenia* spp. (guairaje, mijes), *Gesneria* spp. (Gesneria), ferns, orchids and bromeliads. On the way to the trail we can see, *Coccothrinax alexandri* (palma yuraguano, yuraguana) and *Copernicia rigida* (jata, jata guatacuda) also stand out. Among birds can be observed Cuban Tody, Cuban Vireo,

Red-legged Thrush, Cuban Crow and Oriente Warbler. **Night in Baracoa** **Day 7:** Travel to Santiago de Cuba, going down La Farola road, with stops in Alto de Cotilla, here you can see exuberant pine forests, evergreen forests and some submontane rainforests, we will see species such as: *Spathelia vernicosa* (flor de peladero), *Scaevola wrightii*, *Coccothrinax bermudezii* (yuraguana enana), *Coccothrinax baracoensis* (yuraguana), begonias, ferns, orchids, pileas among others and very attractive natural and productive mountain landscapes. In the Ranchón in Imias, Bate Bate-Tortuguilla and Playa de Yateritas (in this part of the route and at different points you can see mountain landscapes with coastal vegetation and flora, very xerophytic and exceptional, evergreen microphyllous forest, coastal thicket and rocky coast vegetation complex, among others, and several Cactaceae species of the genera: *Pilosocereus*, *Stenocereus*, *Consolea*, *Harrisia*, *Melocactus*, also *Agave albescens* and *Agave underwoodii* (maguey, maguey de costa), *Coccothrinax muñizii* (yuraguana), *Coccothrinax alexandri* subsp. *nitida* (yuraguana), *Coccothrinax* spp., *Sabal domingensis* (palma cana), *Croton* spp. (romero, romero de costa, aceitillo), *Plumeria* spp. (suchelí, lirio de costa), *Erythroxylum*



spinescens, *Vernonia complicata*, *Matelea alainii*, *Thouinia leonis*, *Bursera glauca* (almaciguillo), *Mosiera oonophylla*, *Jacquinia* spp. (espuela de caballero) among others. Several species of birds can be observed: Cuba Gnatcatcher, Zapata Sparrow and Cuban Grassquit among others. **Night in Santiago de Cuba**

Santiago de Cuba was founded in 1514 by Diego Velázquez, first governor of Cuba; it served as the capital of Cuba until 1553.**Day 8:** Tour of La Gran Piedra (Great Stone) After breakfast we will focus our efforts at La Gran Piedra, while we get magnificent views of the coast and surrounding mountains.

Formed most likely from a volcanic rupture, the “Gran Piedra” (the Grand Stone) is an enormous rock measuring 51 yards long and 25 to 30 yards wide. With a calculated weight of about 63,000 tons, this boulder is situated on the summit of a mountain rising 4020 feet above sea level.

The gigantic stone mass was perhaps a witness to the volcanism of the Paleocene, just like all of the geology of the Sierra Maestra Mountains, where strata of this type of rock are present composed of layers of volcanic lava. This mass is famous not only within the frontiers of the island, but also all across the Caribbean since it is the largest such stone in the entire region.

It is a natural watch tower from where the whole mountain range of the Sierra Maestra can be observed; likewise, almost the entire southeastern coast can be seen from here. Here you would see rain forests, pine forests, spectacular mountain landscapes and even the coast given the height and position of this place, tree ferns such as: *Cyathea strigillosa* (helecho arbol), *Alsophila boytelii* (Palmira) and other types of ferns and their relatives, in flowering plants the following stand out: *Magnolia cubensis* (magnolia, marañón de la maestra), *Tabebuia hypoleuca* (roble macho), *Prestoea acuminata* var *montana* (palma de sierra o de montaña), *Illiciun cubense* (anís silvestre), *Ocotea cuneata* (canelón, canelillo), *Ilex macfadyeni* (acebo cubano), *Rondeletia intermixta*, as well as notorious species of the melastomataceas, rubiaceas, myrtaceae, begoniaceas, orchidaceas and bromeliaceas families.

After will visit Baconao National Park with 84.600 ha and it was declared in 1987 a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. Here we will see coastal thicket and the Baconao lagoon surrounded by mangrove forest. Among the elements to be highlighted by parts are: *Acrocomia crispera* (corojo), *Coccothrinax fragilide* (yuraguana), *Coccothrinax* spp., *Harrisia cubensis* (jijira), *Dendrocereus nudiflorus* (aguacate cimarron, flor de copa), *Pilosocereus polygonus* (cardón, cardón blanco), *Croton* spp. (romero, romero de costa, aceitillo), *Passiflora santiagana* (pasionaria peluda), *Zamia angustifolia* (yuca guayara, yuca de ratón, yuquilla), among others. Several species of Birds can be observed: Cuban Emerald, Western Spindalis, Yellow-faced Grassquit, Cuban Bullfinch.

Depart at night to Havana city.



Day 9: Departure to Pinar del Río and visit to the viewpoint of the Buenavista coffee plantation ruins, here you can see landscapes of evergreen and semi-deciduous mountain forests, with palm groves of *Roystonea regia* (royal palm), with a diversity of native species associated to these habitats: *Erythroxylum confusum* (arabo colorado), tar gum tree *Clusia minor* (copeicillo), lancewood *Nectandra coriacea* (cigua), bastard willow *Matayba oppositifolia* (macuri), black lancewood *Oxandra lanceolata* (yaya) and *Eugenia* spp. (guairajes and mijes) among others. Also, we will visit the ecological community of Las Terrazas (Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve) with ultramontane natural landscapes nuanced with palm groves, pine forests, turpentine tree *Bursera simaruba* (almacigo), *Ficus* spp. (jagüey), kapoktree *Ceiba pentandra* (ceiba). On the way will visit Hacienda Cortina in La Güira and Cuevas Los Portales, when passing through this area you can see: Caribbean pine *Pinus caribaea* (pino macho), *Cojoba arborea* (moruro rojo), *Casearia* sp. *Poeppigia procera* (tengue), genipa *Genipa americana* (jagua), mountain trumpet *Schefflera morototoni* (yagruma macho), cycad or dwarf zamia *Zamia pygmaea*, cycad *Zamia erosa* (yuca guayara, yuquilla de sabana), *Renealmia aromatica* (cojate) and diodia or buttonweed *Diodia lippoides* (yerba de garro), *Vanilla* spp. (vanilla), *Tillandsia* spp. (curujey) among others, also landscapes of mountains with mogotes of the Sierra de la Güira and forests at the base. Several birds can be



observed: Cuban Pygmy Owl, Stygian Owl, Cuban Tody, Cuban Trogon, Fernandina's Flicker, West Indian Woodpecker, Broad-winged Hawk, Giant Kingbird, Yellow-head Warbler, Cuban Grassquit, Cuban Bullfinch, Red-legged Honeycreeper, Western Spindalis, Olive-capped Warbler, Cuban Oriole, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird.

Night in Viñales Valley



Day 10:

Visit to the Reserve of Mil Cumbres: Route by Sendero del Cuabal in order to enjoy the lowland serpentine shrubwood habitat (cuabal) and pine forest, here you will see landscapes and unique flora, among the species to observe are: wedge-leaf flower *Phyllanthus orbicularis* (alegría), rodentia or Panama-rose *Rondeletia odorata* (rondelecia), coast lily or Cuban plumeria *Plumeria sericifolia* (súcheli, lirio) , *Mazaea phialanthoides*, century plant *Agave cajalbanensis* (maguey), crowned beggarticks *Phyllomelia coronata*, *Pachira emarginata* (ceibón-seibón de arroyo), *Eugenia rigidifolia* (birijí de hojas menudas), miraguama palm *Coccothrinax miraguama* (miraguano), guano palm or Cuban palm *Copernicia glabrescens* (guano, guano blanco), *Erythroxylum minutifolium* (cubanicu), *Coccoloba coriacea*, as well as some orchids such as: pine pink



Bletia purpurea (candelaria or candelaria flower), *Tetramicra* sp. and *Encyclia* spp. (San Pedro flower, chocolate flower), also Bromeliads of the genera *Tillandsia*, *Catopsis* and *Guzmania* (curujey), as well as hemiparasitic plants of the genera *Phoradendron* and *Dendropemum* (injerto, palo caballero, muérdago).

Later in the afternoon on the Jurassic journey trail you can see *Microcycas calocoma* (cork palm), *Cynometra cubensis* (pico de gallo, caguairáncillo), *Mitranthes ottonis* (carnation), *Neomezia cubensis* (chicharrón enano), *Calyptronoma plumeriana* (palma manaca, manaca, flor de confite), orchids such as: spotted ear mule orchid

Trichocentrum undulatum (oreja de burro), *Vanilla* spp. (vanilla) and *Encyclia* spp. (flor de San Pedro), *Tillandsia* spp. (curujey), *Hohenbergia penduliflora* (curujey gigante), riparian forest, riverside aquatic plants and the characteristic diversity of this type of habitats. Several birds can be observed: Cuban Vireo, American Kestrel (Cuban subspecies), White-winged Dove, White-crowned Pigeon and Scaly-naped Pigeon

Night in Viñales Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Day 11: Tour of the Viñales Valley, Las Maravillas trail, Dos Hermanas Valley, Jose Miguel-El Palenque Cave, El Indio Cave, tobacco fields. Among bird species are: Cuban Emerald, Cuban Trogon, Cuban Tody, West Indian Woodpecker, Cuban Pewee, Cuban Vireo, Cuban Solitaire, Cuban Grassquit, Western Spindalis, Cuban Bullfinch

Night in Viñales Valley.

The natural and biological diversity values of Viñales National Park are supported both by the exceptional mogotes vegetation complex, variations of the karstic relief, with its spectacular views of their famous mogotes, their particular flora composition, spatial distribution and curious forms of growth.

Among the most attractive and curious plant species that you can observe on the Las Maravillas trail and other sites in the park, the following species stand out: *Microcycas calocoma* (palma corcho), *Gaussia princeps* (palma de Sierra barrigona), *Leucothrinax morrissi* (guano de Sierra), *Pachira cubensis* (ceibón-seibón), *Hebestigma cubense* (frijolillo), *Spathelia brittonii* (bonita de Sierra), *Ekmanianthe actinophylla* (roble caimán), *Tabebuia calcicola* (roble caimán and roble yanilla), *Siemensia pendula*, *Ancistranthus harpochiloides*, *Anthuriun cubense*, *Anthurium venosum* (anturio, lengua de vaca), *Jatropha interregima* (peregrina, yuramira), as well as orchids such as: spotted ear mule orchid *Trichocentrum undulatum* (oreja de burro), *Vanilla* spp. (vanilla), *Epidendrum* spp.

and *Encyclia* spp. (flor de San Pedro) and bromeliads of the genera *Guzmania*, *Tillandsia*, *Hohenbergia* (giant curujey) and *Peperomia erythropremna* among other novelties.

Night in Viñales Valley



Day 12: Departure to Zapata Swamp (UNESCO Biosphere Reserve). Stop to see the Bee Hummingbird (smallest bird in the World!). The largest wetland in the Caribbean region (Ramsar site) with a high diversity of plants and animals where most of Cuban endemic birds could be found and more than 900 species of native plants. In the afternoon tour with a stop at the Cueva de los Peces and El enigma de las Rocas trail, here you will observe, microphyllous evergreen forest (dry forest) and dry coastal and subcoastal xeromorphic scrub (coastal thicket), on substrate on karst with connected lagoons called cenotes by some, among the main species we can see are: *Phlebotaenia cuneata* (flebotenia), *Ovieda calcicola*, *Diospyros grisebachii* (ébano negro), *Diospyros crassinervis* (ébano carbonero), *Ficus crassinervia* (jagüey macho), *Myrcianthes fragrans* (pimientica), *Tabebuia myrtifolia* (roble de hojas pequeñas, romperopa), *Pilosocereus robinii* (jijira), *Eugenia* spp. (guairajes, mijes), orchids of the genera *Encyclia*, *Tolumnea*, *Vanilla*, *Cyrtopodium*, *Trichrocentrum* (flor de flor de San Pedro, San Juan, chocolate, cañuela), *Tillandsia* spp. (curujeyes) and hemiparasites such as: *Phoradendron piperoids*,

Phoradendron quadrangulare, *Dendrophthora* spp. (injerto, palo de caballero, muérdago). Other species you could see: Cuban Pygmy Owl, Cuban Oriole, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird, Red-shouldered Blackbird,

Night in Zapata Peninsula.

Day 13: Sunrise in the Zapata Swamp, journey from Caletón-Santo Tomás where you can see variants of semi-deciduous mesophyllous forest, swamp forest, evergreen mesophyllous forest, in part of these forests the following species stand out: bull thatch palm *Sabal maritima* (palma cana, cana), *Sabal japonica* (cana japá, rabo de totí), *Banara brittonii*, *Coccoloba* spp. (uvilla), among others. In addition, temporary lagoons in parts that house novel plant communities with *Annona glabra* (bagá), *Salix carolineana* (sauce, clavellina), *Nymphaea* spp. (flor de agua), *Thalia trichocalyx* (platanillo de río), *Hydrolea* spp. (tabaco cimarrón), *Cuphea* spp. (cufea), different types of ferns of the genera *Thelypteris*, *Polypodium*, *Tectaria*, *Anemia*, *Selaginella* and even primitive ones such as: *Osmunda regalis* (helecho real), insectivorous species of the genus *Utricularia*, Bromeliaceae of the genera *Tillandsia*, *Guzmania*, *Catopsis* (curujey) and some orchids such as: pine-pink or sharp-petaled bletia *Bletia purpurea* (candelaria), *Tolumnea*, *Encyclia*, *Epidendrum* (San Pedro, San Juan, flor de chocolate flower, oreja de burro, cañuela). Several important bird species could be observed you could observed; Zapata Sparrow, Zapata Wren and Gray-fronted Quail Dove.



In the afternoon departure for Cienfuegos-Trinidad. Brief stop in Babineyes to see palm groves and landscapes of flooded savannas. Visit to Cienfuegos Botanical Garden (National Monument) to enjoy the collection of palms, where you will be able to see native palms that are not in the natural environment in the habitats of the route: Bailey's fan palm

Copernicia bayleyana, *C. yarey*, blue yarey palm (*C. hospita*), Cuban petticoat palm (*C. macroglosa*), *Copernicia* spp. (yarey, yarey hembra, guano hediondo, jata guatacudá, jata de Guanabacoa). Continue the trip with a stop in Guajimico to see landscapes of dry coast vegetation combined with cliffs and mangrove strips. A huge arboreal cactus stands out, *Dendrocereus arboreus* (aguacate cimarrón, flor de copa), and other species that accompany it in its habitat of the genus *Plumeria*, *Acalypha*, *Gesneria* among others. From Guajimico to Trinidad you can enjoy vegetation, rivers and coastal landscapes with a diversity of natural attractions, including the views of the Escambray mountains. If we have time, continue towards the Ancón Peninsula where you can observe *Copernicia macroglosa* in a natural environment.

Trinidad is one of the oldest colonial towns in Cuba and it was founded in 1514 and it is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Trinidad was the town from where Hernán Cortés recruited men to start his expedition to conquer Mexico. A city tour will include the most important sites of the town. A very active and musical place, where many local musicians play every single night.

Night in Trinidad



Day 14: Ascent to Topes de Collantes (natural mountain landscapes are observed with different contrasts of the vegetation and flora of the mountain system). Tour of the Codinas trail, here you will see mesophyllous evergreen forest, submontane rain forest, where the following tree species stand out such as: *Cordia valenzuelana* (ateje hembra), *Sapium* spp. (lechero, piniche), lauraceae of the genera *Ocotea* (aguacatillo, boniato

laurel), *Aiouea* (boniatillo), *Nectandra* (cigua, boniato); furthermore *Psychotria* spp. (tapa camino, plateado), abundant ferns of the genera *Adiantum*, *Anemia*, *Thelypteris*, *Polypodium*, *Asplenium*, and also arborescent ones such as *Cyathea arborea* and *Cyathea aspera* (helecho arbol, helecho gigante, camarón, palmira erizada), *Alsophila balanocarpa* (Palmira), *Alsophila cubensis* (manaquillo), *Cnemidaria horrida* (helecho arbol); orchids of the genera *Encyclia*, *Epidendrum*, *Bletia*, *Lepanthes*, *Pleurothallis*, *Sacoila*, *Dichaea*, *Polystachia*, *Prosthechea* (orquidea negra), *Polystachya*, *Isochilus linearis*, *Vanilla* (vanilla), also an atypical cactus, spineless and epiphytic *Rhipsalis baccifera* (disciplinilla), as well as a diversity of bromeliads, species of the genera *Begonia*, *Peperomia* and *Pilea*. Among important bird species are: White-collared Swift, Black-Swift, Cuban Parrot, Cuban Trogon, and Gundlach's Hawk.



Night in Trinidad.

Day 15: City tour in the morning in Trinidad. Departure to Havana after we finish the city tour. Arrival to Havana in late in the afternoon. The group will meet at dinner at 6:30 pm. Tropicana Cabaret at night to enjoy the show and Cuban music.

Night in Havana

Day 16: A city tour during the morning and afternoon in order to enjoy the beauty of the city and its music along the street walk. Its 16th-century Spanish colonial architecture includes the Morro Castle at the entrance of Havana Bay and built initially in 1589, Castillo de la Real Fuerza, a fort and maritime museum, the baroque Cathedral of San Cristobal constructed between 1748-1777 and Plaza Vieja. The National Capitol building is an iconic 1920s landmark and many other places of great interest and many other highlights of the city.

Day 17: Departure to Havana airport.