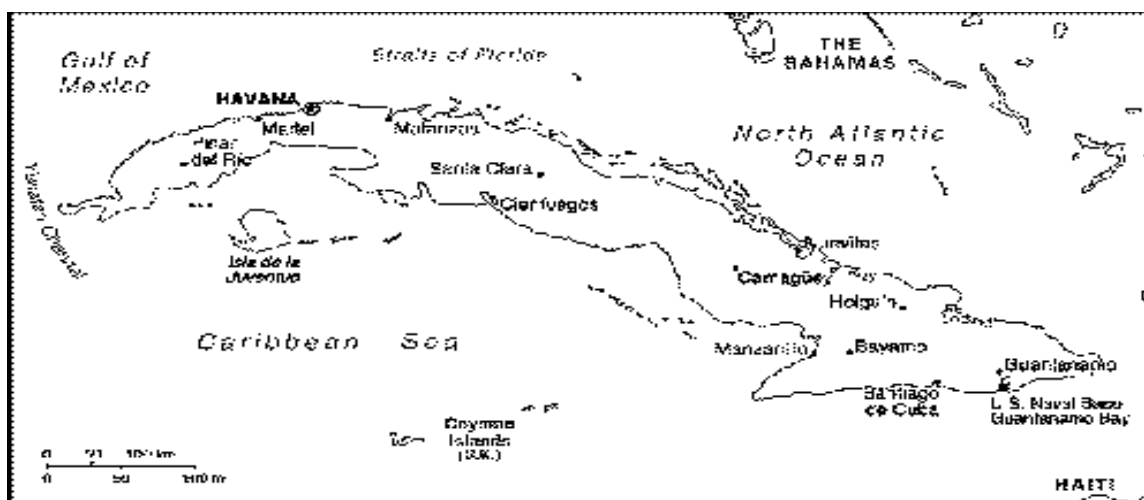


Brigade to Cuba Information



Here is your chance to support Cuba in the most direct manner by working for a few days picking fruit or pruning fruit trees and then visiting schools, hospitals, sugar mills and range of other community centres. You will experience at first hand the cultural, political and social conditions in revolutionary Cuba. Children are welcome on this tour as are older participants. On past tours a seven year old Sydney girl and an 82 year old Melbourne unionist were among our most dynamic group members. Our Cuban hosts take great care of visitors of all ages. Brigade members only do the amount of work they consider appropriate. You will not be asked to do any job that is too hard for you. You will experience closely the cultural political and social conditions in revolutionary Cuba.

The main features of the Brigade include:

- Working with Cubans
- Talks on various aspects of conditions in Cuba given by prominent Cuban speakers
- Visits to places of interest (eg schools, hospitals, factories)
- Opportunity to explore Havana independently
- Visits to provincial centres
- Homestays with Cuban families in Pinar del Río for five nights
- Participation in cultural activities

Flights

The group will depart from Australia/New Zealand on 27 December 2005, travelling via Canada to Havana. Two nights in Toronto - one each way.

The group will return to Australia/New Zealand by the same route. The group will arrive back in Australia/New Zealand on 24 January 2006.

The Group Itinerary

| CITY: FROM-TO | FLIGHT | DEP: DATE/TIME | ARR: DATE/TIME |
|----------------------|--------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Sydney to Vancouver | AC 34 | 26 Dec 2005 11:15am | 26 Dec 2005 9:10am |
| Vancouver to Toronto | AC 8 | 26 Dec 2005 11:00am | 26 Dec 2005 6:23pm |
| Toronto to Havana | AC 988 | 27 Dec 2005 10:30am | 27 Dec 2005 2:10pm |
| Havana to Toronto | AC 989 | 21 Jan 2006 3:10pm | 21 Jan 2006 6:40pm |
| Toronto to Vancouver | AC 169 | 22 Jan 2006 1:10pm | 22 Jan 2006 3:26pm |
| Vancouver to Sydney | AC 45 | 22 Jan 2006 4:40pm | 24 Jan 2006 6:05am |

If anyone wants to alter their itinerary to include an around the world fare, or trips to other locations this can be arranged. Bookings will be made on an individual basis, as getting a group booking with Air Canada is extremely difficult due to their 7 day from booking payment policy. Once someone makes a booking they have 7 days from that date to make full payment. Basically it will be a first-come first-served basis and if the above flights sell out you will have to use another itinerary. The same applies to the stopover hotel accommodation; if it becomes sold out, the Travel Agent will assist you in finding alternatives.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance is compulsory. Your Travel Insurance Policy must cover you for the duration of the trip. It must include cover for the day you leave home for Cuba and the day you return home to Australia/New Zealand.

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions, you must arrange to be covered for these conditions as well. This may involve the payment of an extra premium.

A travel insurance policy and application form may be obtained from the Travel Agent.

Please note that the cost of your travel insurance is additional to the price quoted in the advertisement for this trip. The Travel Agent will discount brigade members 15% on travel insurance policies.

Your participation in the coming tour assumes that you are fit and well enough to take the long journey to Cuba and to participate fully.

Visas

A visa (free of charge for Brigade members) is required to enter Cuba. An application form will be provided to those who decide to participate in the Brigade. A visa for Canada is not required but a MACHINE READABLE PASSPORT IS REQUIRED and passengers must be free of CRIMINAL HISTORY as we do pass thru the UNITED STATES through Hawaii in both directions

Cost of the Brigade

The cost of the Brigade is \$5,186 Australian. This is made up as follows:

Travel arrangements: Flights \$3,479 (ex Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney and Gold Coast, transfers, taxes ex Sydney - may be additional from other departure points), taxes \$420, two nights' accommodation in Toronto \$198. If passengers depart from Cairns or Townsville it is an additional \$100 per person (taxes may vary)

If a passenger departs from Adelaide, Hobart, Launceston it is an additional \$200 per person (taxes may vary) If a passenger departs from Perth it is an additional \$489.00 per person (taxes may vary) *** THE REASON FOR THE DIFFERENCE IS OBVIOUSLY FOR THE DOMESTIC SECTORS WITHIN AUSTRALIA ***

The fare quoted does not include passengers from New Zealand.

- Total \$4,097 payable to Flight Centre;
- Costs in Cuba (including accommodation, food, transport) plus administration costs - \$1,089 Australian payable to Australia-Cuba Friendship Society. Cheques should be sent together with the Booking Form to: ACFS, PO Box 1051, Collingwood Vic 3066.

Included in the price

- Airfares ex Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney and Gold Coast
- Ticket with Canada Airlines to Havana and return
- A11 accommodation, meals, excursions and transport in Cuba
- Taxes
- Commemorative T-shirt
- Two nights accommodation in Toronto (one each way)

Not included in the price

- All other expenses in Vancouver and Toronto (meals etc)
- Taxes from other departure cities to Sydney
- Travel insurance (this is compulsory for everyone)

Booking Conditions

- Participants must arrive in Havana on 27 December 2005
- Individual return dates permitted, at extra cost in some cases
- Two return en route stopovers are permitted free of charge
- Continued stay in Cuba or other ongoing flights can be arranged with the travel agent

Booking and Payment

The price of the trip is \$A4,097 from Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide or Cairns. Departures from Perth need to contact the travel agency, but cheaper flights may be available at the time of booking. Full payment is due within 7 days of booking.

The Travel Agent

The travel agent is Flight Centre, which has many years' experience in organising personal, group and corporate travel. David Gardette will be available to answer your queries and meet your personal travel needs. David can be reached Monday-Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm as follows:

David Gardette
Flight Centre
Shop 13, Lygon Court Shopping Centre
380 Lygon Street
Carlton Vic 3053
Tel: (03) 9349 1499, Fax: (03) 9349 1208
david.gardette@flightcentre.com.au

Please book early!!! In previous years people have missed out because of the unavailability of airline seats, due to the usual heavy Christmas holiday demand.

Further Information

If you are interested in participating in the Brigade contact the National Co-ordinator, Flora, or a local Cuba Friendship Society representative (contact details are given below). If you decide to go, you will be given a comprehensive kit including information about conditions in Cuba, Brigade activities, tips on what to take and other important information. Information meetings will be held in most locations. Intending participants should attend these meetings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Adelaide: | Paul Noack | 0418 831 873 | ebart@adam.com.au |
| Albury: | Peter Hood | (02) 6021 3520 | phood1@bigpond.com |
| Brisbane: | Marcial Parada | (07) 3278 0938 | corindamparada@mail2me.com.au |
| Canberra: | Brian & Luisa | (02) 6282 4747 | brilu@bigpond.net.au |
| Melbourne: | Flora | (03) 9470 5300 | osorioflora@netscape.net |
| | Bill | (03) 9306 1747 | bill_brigade@hotmail.com |
| Newcastle: | Kate Ferguson | (02) 4969 3898 | kateferguson@bigpond.com |
| Perth: | Vinicio Molina | 0419 812 872 | vinniemolin@hotmail.com |
| | Ian Butcher | 0429 359 945 | i.butch@eftel.com |
| Sydney: | Nick Rawson | 0414 691 732 | joan@raf.org |
| Sydney Western Suburbs: | Hugo Nardini | (02) 9822 5891 | hugo@hn.ozemail.com.au |
| Tasmania: | Ro Dallow | (03) 6234 6068 | rdallow@iinet.com.au |
| New Zealand: | Ina Lawrence | | inashina@clear.net.nz |

Or write to: Australia-Cuba Friendship Society, PO Box 1051, Collingwood Vic. 3066

Staying in Cuba after the Brigade

Some Brigadistas choose to stay in Cuba after the brigade has finished. If you wish to stay it is highly recommended that you organise your airline return dates before you leave Australia. Individual tourists need to consider the following aspects:

- Your visa for Cuba must be valid for the time you wish to stay in Cuba. It is much easier to arrange your extended visa from Australia/NZ than to extend your visa in Cuba.
- In Havana there is a fairly wide range of supermarkets, shops, kiosks and restaurants. In other parts of Cuba, however, tourists' only option sometimes is to eat in hotel restaurants where a meal will cost a minimum \$US5.
- Most Cubans use public transport, bicycles or their feet. For tourists the options are a little wider. One option for tourists is to take a taxi, for which the charge rate is similar to that in Australia. For travel between different parts of Cuba, public transport is available. The bus and train services are cheap. Internal flights with Cubana de Aviacion can also be booked. Hire cars are a popular option for tourists and are fairly widely available. In Cuba they drive on the right hand side. An international driver's permit is required to hire a car.

Anybody planning to travel independently should purchase a recent travel guide. The Cuban Government Tourism web site is at www.cubatrael.com

Code Of Conduct

The Australia-Cuba Friendship Society and New Zealand Cuba Friendship Society's annual work/study Brigade was established in 1984 to exchange political and cultural ideas with Cuba.

Brigadistas need to understand that this is not a holiday tour, but a tour in solidarity with the Cuban people and their revolution. Therefore they have responsibilities, as their conduct reflects on the Cuba Friendship Societies as a whole.

Brigadistas are expected to:

- Understand and reflect the Cuban culture
- Participate in all Brigade activities as designed by ICAP (Instituto Cubano de Amistad con los Pueblos, the Brigade's hosts in Cuba)
- Be respectful of other Brigadistas
- Appreciate that Brigadistas are guests of the Cuban people at the invitation of ICAP.

In preparation for the Brigade it is recommended that all participants join in the activities of their local Cuba Friendship Society branch beforehand.