

Buen Viaje to Cuba

Tourist and Cultural Magazine
Year 2021, WTM London



**Cuba reopens its borders to travelers
from all over the world**

**Cuba, Best Cultural Destination
in Caribbean**

**Five reasons
to go diving in Cuba**



The professional experience and technological development of a country.



CUBAN MEDICAL SERVICES

A wide range of Health Programs

Highest level specialists at your service

Specialized care in main tourist destinations.

International Clinics and Pharmacies throughout the national territory



smc@smcsaludcuba.cu



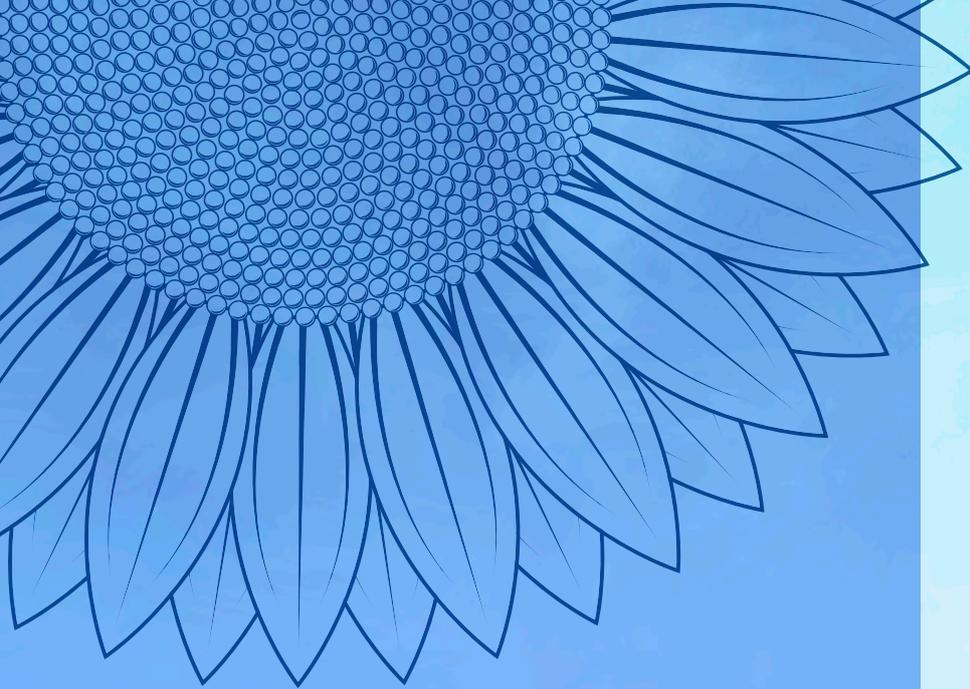
[smcsaludcuba](https://www.facebook.com/smcsaludcuba)



[@SMCSaludCuba](https://twitter.com/SMCSaludCuba)



www.smcsalud.cu



Hi friends,

We are still with you, sharing the good reasons to travel to Cuba.

In this edition we bring you the great news of the reopening of Cuba's borders to tourism and we share the dates for the restart of activities in the hotels of the main Cuban hotel groups and international chains present in Cuba.

We share the celebration for Cuba's recent awarding as *Caribbean Cultural Destination* by the World Travel Awards, where the Meliá Las Dunas Hotel was awarded as the Leading Resort in this country.

We invite you to the city of Santiago de Cuba to get to know, with the help of the Cuba Ron S.A. Corporation, the place where the secrets of Cuban rum are conserved, the Bodega Don Pancho, also called the Cathedral of Cuban Rum.

In addition, you will find in this edition information on flights by various airlines that return to Havana and the main Sun and Beach destinations.

Discover Cuba from our pages.

www.buenviajecuba.com



EDITOR:

Mara Roque González
info@buenviajecuba.com

DESIGN:

Ariel Rodríguez Pérez

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Julio Antonio Alvite Piedra

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Julio Antonio Alvite Piedra

ENGLISH VERSION:

Mercedes Guillot

COLLABORATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHY:

Cubanacán, Gaviota, Agencia San Cristóbal, Gran Caribe, Publicitur, Palmares, MGM Muthu, Habana Radio, Cuba Ron S.A, Marinas Marlin S.A, Iberostar Cuba, Oficina del Historiador de La Habana, Damián Pérez Domínguez, Julio Larramendi y Rolando Pujols

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS:

Carlos Torres, Lucía Zalbidea, Iván Recio del Vallín, Lizandra Torres, Nelson González, Morela Álvarez, Sandra Guerra Soriano, Roberto Fariñas, Ángel Alderete, y Carlos A. Masvidal

PRINTING COORDINATOR:

Carlos Torres Cairo

PRINTING:

Cubaimagen S.A.

Published by Revistas del Caribe S.L., with the collaboration of Lugares de América S.L. Director: Alfredo González Montero



In this EDITION

04 | **CUBA REOPENS ITS BORDERS**
to travelers from all over the world

CUBANA DE AVIACIÓN | 08
resumes flights to Buenos Aires

09 | **HOLA SUN / CARIBE SOL**
Travel to Cuba from Canada

LIZT ALFONSO DANCE CUBA | 10
celebrates 30 years of lighth!

11 | **WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS**
Cuba, Best Cultural Destination in Caribbean

MGM MUTHU HOTELS | 12
strengthens its presence in Cuba

14 | **CENTENNIAL**
of the bodega Don Pancho

MELÍA LAS DUNAS | 17
Leading Resort in Cuba

18 | **CUBANACÁN GROUP'S**
Reopened facilities



4



14



SUN CLINICS | 20
Vacation Health

22 | **CORAL LEVEL AT IBEROSTAR**
SELECTION ESMERALDA

THREE CLASSIC HOTELS | 24
in Havana

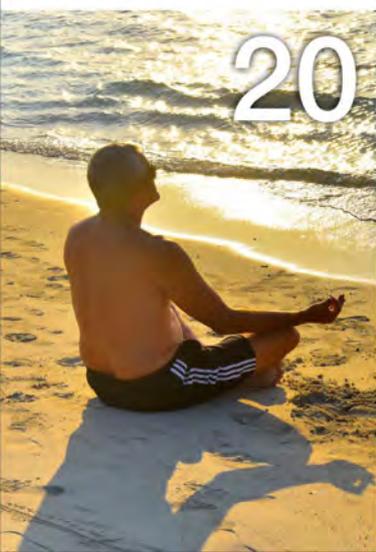
26 | Five reasons to go
DIVING IN CUBA

BLUE DIAMOND | 28
waits for you in Cuba

30 | **FESTIVAL JAZZ PLAZA 2022**
from Havana to Santiago de Cuba

IBERO-AMERICAN SUMMIT | 31
on Accessible Tourism

32 | **SUNWING**
Announces flights to Cuba



20



26

Choose Experience...



cubatur
Travel agency



 Agencia de Viajes Cubatur

 @CubaturCuba

www.cubatur.cu www.viajescubatur.com www.cuba.travel



Cuba

reopens its borders to travelers
from all over the world



Cuba is reopening all its borders to international travel on November 15, a decision that takes into account the positive control scenario in the face of COVID-19, the tendency to a decrease in cases in all its provinces and the expected immunization of 90% of its inhabitants by November. In addition, airport, hotel and other personnel who interact with travelers have been the first to be vaccinated and will get a booster dose to reinforce their protection.

This will make it possible to implement measures such as the elimination of the mandatory quarantine for travelers as of November 7, the return of mobility between provinces (which boosts the development of tourist circuits) and the revival of cultural activities.

The health protocols are being adapted to the new context, since upon arrival, the international vaccination certification will be required from travelers. Failing that, they must show the negative result of a PCR performed no more than 72 hours before arrival in Cuba. At the entry points to the country, health personnel will carry out temperature checks and take random samples, while epidemiological surveillance is maintained in the accommodation facilities.





Other markets such as Mexico, Panama and the Dominican Republic are also increasing their presence in the island's tourist environment. Cubana de Aviación is resuming its routes from Argentina and Spain, and other traditional airlines such as Air France, Air Europa and Iberia are increasing their flights. Tourists from the Asian continent will have Turkish Airlines, which will connect this region of the world with the Cuban capital.

All these elements make it possible to expect the arrival of some 100,000 international tourists in the period between November 15 and the end of the year. The response of the tour operators and airlines has exceeded expectations, a fact that allows trust in a very encouraging winter.

Travelers will find in Cuba renovated facilities and a multitude of new services, such as improvements in Internet connectivity, the use of free Wi-Fi for 30 minutes at airports, the new platforms for the online sale of services and the ease of making digital payments.

The tourism authorities in Cuba invite vacationers from all over the world to visit a renewed and safe destination, which has thousands of attractions in its beaches, cities and nature reserves. All conditions have been created and travelers will especially feel the hospitality of the Cuban people, ready to again welcome friends from all over the world.

In private rental houses, the owners are responsible for timely reporting any guest with symptoms. Tourists with a positive PCR will be transferred to health institutions for their attention and care. The mandatory use of a mask is maintained within air and port terminals, as well as throughout the country.

The ten international airports throughout the archipelago, as well as marinas and other arrival points, are ready for reopening. There is great interest among the tour operators that work the Cuba Destination, and numerous requests have been received from Canada, the United Kingdom and other European countries. Russia, a market that has been flying to Varadero and Cayo Coco for several weeks, is planning growth based on itineraries that depart from new cities.





ASISTUR S.A. Mercantile Company reaches its 30th anniversary in 2021. It belongs to the CAUDAL S.A. Group and offers assistance services for personal coverage and insurance sales to individuals and legal entities. It has highly qualified personnel with proven experience throughout the country.

**Don't worry,
ASISTUR takes care**

www.asistur.cu



**Alarm Center
24 hours**

Insurance Sales for:
Travel / Medical expenses
Automotive / Goods

HEAD OFFICE / Prado No. 208
e/ Trocadero y Colón, Habana Vieja,
La Habana.
Telf.: +53 7866 4499 - 7862 8798
- 7866 4124 - 7862 8624
asisten@asistur.cu
seguros@asistur.cu

MATANZAS +53 4525 3834
VARADERO +53 4566 7277
CAYO COCO +53 3330 7350
VILLA CLARA +53 4229 9448

HOLGUÍN +53 2448 2029
SEGUROS +53 2445 0020
CAMAGÜEY +53 3224 5991
SANTIAGO DE CUBA +53 2266 7259



Cubana de Aviación resumes flights to Buenos Aires

Cubana de Aviación is resuming its flights between Buenos Aires and Havana as of this November 22, with departures every Monday at 12:30 a.m. from the Ezeiza terminal, in the Argentine capital, and arrival in Cuba at 8:30 a.m. on the same day.

For November and December, Cubana de Aviación will operate the weekly flight to Havana, and starting January it will add trips to Cayo Coco, a tourist destination highly appreciated by travelers from Argentina and the rest of the Southern Cone countries.

Ticket sales are available at the airline's office in Buenos Aires, located at 552 Sarmiento Street. Queries can also be made through the emails: reservas@cubanadeaviacion.com.ar and pasajes@cubanadeaviacion.com.ar

Those interested can also contact the travel agencies Havanatur Argentina, Julia Tours, OLA, Freeway, Eurovips, Tip Travel, Top Dest, Logan Travel, Station Travel and Soles Viajes.

To enter Cuba travelers must show the certificate or document that accredits the international vaccination scheme, and those not vaccinated must present the negative result of a PCR test made a maximum of 72 hours before their arrival. Passenger temperature control will be maintained at the entry airports and independent random tests will be carried out according to the opinion of the health authorities (PCR or antigen test).

Complying with sanitary protocols is essential, as part of the Tourism + Hygienic and Safer program that Cuba has designed to guarantee the safety of travelers in all tourist services.





Hola Sun/Caribe Sol

Travel to Cuba from Canada



Hola Sun/Caribe Sol, a tour operator specialized in trips from Canada to the largest of the Caribbean islands, restarted its operations in collaboration with the OWG airline.

To enjoy a stay on Cuba's beautiful beaches, get to know its heritage cities and be in contact with the nature and culture of this country, the first step is to visit the Hola Sun/Caribe Sol website. The information is available at www.holasunholidays.ca (in English) and www.caribesol.ca (in French)

The departures of flights of the Canadian airline OWG (acronym for Off We Go) will be from Toronto and Montreal and they will arrive at the airports of the main tourist destinations in the country. They will have several weekly frequencies, which will allow organizing customized travel packages. The Canadian airline OWG is a subsidiary of the Quebec-based charter airline Nolinor Aviation, and in July of last year announced the partnership with Hola Sun/Caribe Sol.

Canadian travelers will be able to visit again destinations such as Santa Clara and the nearby keys of its north coast, among them Cayo Santa María, which offers perfect hotels for trips with the family, for couples or with friends. They can also visit cities like Trinidad, with its cobbled streets, its artisans and its museums. In Cienfuegos they can tour the beautiful city, visit the dolphinarium or go diving at Rancho Luna. In Cuba's eastern region they will be able to fly to Holguín and enjoy its beautiful beaches, or to Santiago de Cuba, the most Caribbean of Cuban cities.

In Cuba, as in the hotels and non-hotel facilities which have the Tourism + Hygienic and Safer certification, the airports that will receive the OWG flights have gone through a process of certification and preparation of their personnel.

All are ready to provide the required attention to travelers, following the recommendations of the World Health Organization and the national Ministries of Public Health and Tourism to guarantee health safety in all their processes.



Lizt Alfonso Dance Cuba celebrates *30 Years of Light!*

Lizt Alfonso Dance Cuba is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2021. This is a company characterized by its elegance on stage, its virtuosity and its dedication to the art of dance. Its unique style of Fusion is a wonderful blend of ballet, flamenco, Afro-Cuban folklore dances, and Cuban popular and contemporary dance styles. It is this combination of styles that has given the company its great international successes and worldwide prestige.

The company will have a whole year of celebration that includes:

- The world premiere of a dance show.
- The celebration of special galas with the hits of its repertoire.
- The rerun of one of its most popular works: Vida.
- The exchange with institutions and other companies and its presence at events.



But this is only part of it, as the company led by the prestigious Master Lizt Alfonso will have many other surprises in store for its followers in this year of celebrations.

Learn more about the company at:

www.liztalfonso.com



Cuba, Best Cultural Destination in Caribbean WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS

Cuba was crowned as the winner of the famous World Travel Awards 2021, in the category "Best Cultural Destination" in the Caribbean region. The information released on the official WTA website refers to Barbados, Bermuda, Jamaica, Martinique and Puerto Rico among the other nominated countries.

As a cultural destination, Cuba offers travelers countless attractions, among which are World Heritage cities such as Havana, Santiago and Trinidad; musical and dance expressions of great value such as the son, the rumba and the Tumba Francesa; monumental architectural samples in various cities and a vibrant life in squares and streets, momentarily halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic but already showing encouraging signs of revival.

Cuba received other great joys from these awards, considered the "Oscars of tourism." The Hotel Nacional received the award in the Best Hotel in Cuba category, a distinction it receives in the year in which it is celebrating its 91st anniversary. As Best Suite, the Lorca Presidential Suite of the Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski La Habana was awarded, and in the Best Vacation Resort section, the award went to Meliá Las Dunas, in Cayo Santa María.



For their part, the Inbound Cuba agencies were awarded as Leader Tour Operator; Cuba Direct as a Leading Travel Agency and CubaForTravel as a leader in comprehensive travel management to Cuba.

The World Travel Awards are awarded according to the criteria of travelers and professionals in the sector, who leave their online vote on establishments and attractions. These awards have reached their 28th edition and recognize, reward and celebrate excellence in all key sectors of the travel, tourism and hospitality industries around the world.

MGM MUTHU HOTELS

strengthens its presence in Cuba



The MGM Muthu Hotels chain is expanding its tourist facilities in Cuba, the only tourist destination it has promoted for almost three years in the Caribbean area.

The company currently has three hotels in Jardines del Rey: the Grand Muthu Cayo Guillermo, the Grand Muthu Imperial and the Grand Muthu Rainbow; the first accommodation and leisure facility focused on the LGBT+ segment, with 248 rooms, 6 restaurants, 3 bars, free Wi-Fi in all its facilities, and numerous entertainment options, games room, live shows and water sports.

In Varadero beach resort there is another of the hotels managed by this chain, the Muthu Playa Varadero, while in Havana the Gran Muthu Plaza will open soon. In the Guardalavaca beach resort, on the north coast of Holguín, it manages the five-star Grand Muthu Almirante Beach, with 514 rooms and is already planning the construction of a second accommodation. In this case, it would also be located in this eastern region, in the Yuraguanal area, and would have 480 rooms.

Rafael López, corporate general director of MGM Muthu Hotels in Cuba, told the Agencia Cubana de Noticias news agency that among the most recent investments in the country, the construction, together with the Gaviota Group, of the Gran Muthu Habana stands out. It is a large hotel, located at the intersection of 3rd and 70th streets in the Cuban capital, which will include a shopping center within its various services.

For more information about MGM Muthu Hotels in Cuba:

www.muthuhotelsmgm.com

OPEN AS OF NOVEMBER 1

Gran Muthu Rainbow, Cayo Guillermo

Grand Muthu Almirante Beach, Guardalavaca

MGM
MUTHU HOTELS

f in g+ t YouTube p i
WWW.MUTHUHOTELS.COM

GRAN MUTHU RAINBOW Cayo Guillermo

WE MAKE YOUR DREAM COME TRUE IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ENVIRONMENT



Enjoy special moments and take home unforgettable experiences.
We've thought about all the details so you can enjoy yourself to the fullest.
Connect with nature in this 5-star luxury hotel,
our first LGBTI hotel in Cuba.

GAVIOTA
GRUPO DE TURISMO • CUBA

WWW.MUTHUHOTELS.COM **GO!**

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

ENGLAND

SCOTLAND

FRANCE

CUBA

INDIA

Direct Book Online
The best way to book from MGM Muthu Hotels



Check our website for the best rates, special offers and availability at WWW.MUTHUHOTELS.COM
or directly with our **OFFICE IN CUBA** - Tel.: +53-33310200 / +53-33310214

Centennial of the Bodega Don Pancho

Where Cuban Rum's secrets are keep

There are many good reasons to visit Santiago de Cuba, the most Caribbean of the country's cities, and also the cradle of Cuban rum, as many know it in the world. To honor that second reason, today we invite you to visit one of the city's treasures, closely linked to its history and traditions: the so-called Cathedral of Cuban Rum.





Santiago de Cuba, with more than 500 years of history, treasures the secrets of the elaboration of Cuban light rum, an exquisite mixture that has as its sacred place the Cathedral of Cuban Rum, a title very well given to the Bodega Don Pancho, which is reaching its 100 years of existence.

It opened its doors in 1921 and since then it has protected the bases of aged rums. It has been a witness and executor of the creation of the exquisite blends that the Cuban Rum Masters turn into famous and prized rums. In this almost magical space, between white oak barrels, more than a century and a half of traditions are preserved, related to the technique of distillation and aging. Everything that comes out of Bodega Don Pancho carries a quality seal, which is recognized by experts and clients from all over the world.

According to the archives of the province of Santiago de Cuba and the testimony of the Rum Masters of the Hero City, the name of Don Pancho is due to the fact that its first manager's name was Don Francisco Savigne y Lombard, whom they called Pancho. It is said that this man participated in the war of 1895 with Emilio Bacardí Moreau, who was the first mayor of the city of Santiago de Cuba. At that time, at the beginning of the 20th century, Bacardí was the president of the rum company and when the aging warehouse opened, he appointed Francisco Savigne as manager.

Currently the Don Pancho warehouse is the largest in the country, both in size and also in the amount of aged liquid. It is the one that houses the most barrels with the oldest aged rum bases in Cuba.





never sleeps inside the barrels. The truth is that with the traffic of the trains vibrations occur in the land, and since the Bodega is so near, the liquid in the barrels is encouraged to vibrate and fouling is avoided, which is so damaging to the aging process.

This facility, in addition to the areas dedicated exclusively to the creation and work of the Rum Masters and other specialists, has a rum sales and tasting service in its tavern. There is a space dedicated to the typical rums of the city of Santiago de Cuba.

The centennial of the Bodega Don Pancho is an important celebration for the Cuba Ron S.A. Corporation, which is preparing a group of commemorative actions that include the



In order to admire the Bodega Don Pancho, it is necessary to go to Paseo La Alameda, very close to the railway station, and then visitors will find themselves in front of the sacred site that keeps the secrets of Cuban rums. They will also be in the exact coordinates of the place where special rums are produced, in limited editions, with high quality and a high degree of aging, a provocation for the curiosity of collectors and an invitation for those with exquisite palates.

In Santiago de Cuba you can also learn about some myths linked to the manufacture of light rums, as some say that the climate of the region, one of the hottest in the country, together with earthquakes, it is the area of Cuba with the most seismic activity, influence the rums that are produced there.

Others grant the railroad an indirect and almost mystical participation in the process of manufacturing rums in this eastern Cuban city, stating that thanks to its presence the rum



remodeling of the Bodega and other rum production areas. The creation of a limited edition rum has also been proposed, which will also serve to remember such an important moment. From our pages we will invite you to get to know that new secret of Cuban rum, which will be unveiled to honor a very special Cathedral in Santiago de Cuba, the Bodega Don Pancho.

Meliá Las Dunas, Leading Resort in Cuba



The Meliá Las Dunas, an All-Inclusive accommodation managed by Meliá Hotels International Cuba in the Cayo Santa María resort, was recognized as a Leading Resort in the World Travel Awards 2021. This is one of the most important distinctions that tourism organizations or entities can receive, and once again distinguishes the Meliá Las Dunas, which already received it in 2014 and 2017.

A press release by the company states that this five-star resort enjoys a fantastic location on the beachfront, and is especially recommended for family trips, weddings, honeymoons, incentive trips and circuits. It has a wide variety of culinary

options, and the programs and facilities for the enjoyment of children and adolescents stand out. Meliá Las Dunas is a Smoke Free hotel and its guests enjoy free and unlimited access to the Internet through Wi-Fi connection.

In recent months, the resort has undergone major renovations in key areas such as the lobby, swimming pools, various gastronomic points and the beach area. After the reopening, scheduled for November 1, vacationers will once again enjoy its excellent comforts and services, now in safer environments thanks to the implementation of the Stay Safe with Meliá health program.

CUBANACÁN Group's Reopened facilities

En the context of the reopening of borders announced by the Cuban authorities, the Cubanacán Hotel Group has announced the accommodation facilities that will resume services in various provinces throughout the archipelago.

As of November 15, a group of its hotels will be available, in which all the health protocols included in the *Tourism + Hygienic and Safer* certification granted jointly by the Ministries of Tourism and Public Health of Cuba will be fulfilled.

Following are two of the facilities that reopen as of this November:

Brisas Guardalavaca

The Brisas Guardalavaca Hotel, located on the north coast of Holguín, already has an Internet connection via Wi-Fi, totally free and with unlimited traffic. The announcement was made through the hotel's Facebook page, which informs its followers and other travelers about this facility. Brisas Guardalavaca thus joins the list of facilities in Cuba with free Wi-Fi.



Located on the beach of the same name, Brisas Guardalavaca is managed by the Cubanacán Group. It is a 4-star All Inclusive hotel, has 437 rooms and stands out for its excellent services, backed by the numerous opinions left by its guests on specialized websites, such as TripAdvisor.

Cubanacan Comodoro

This is a Havana hotel ideal for businesspeople, family, events, incentive groups, long-stay and circuits tourism. It is located in the Miramar residential area, very close to important offices, the Miramar Business Center and the Convention Center. It currently has the Alborada bungalows area in operation, 120 of them air-conditioned and equipped to offer an excellent stay.

The restaurant options include the Lobby bar, which operates 24 hours a day, a Buffet restaurant, the Bar next to the pool and two facilities located next to the Commercial Mall: the Mi Fondita restaurant and the Casa de la Cerveza beer parlor. The hotel has a Business Center, with two meeting rooms, technical resources and other facilities for holding events.

www.cubanacan.cu

www.hotelescubanacan.com

reservas.comercial@comodoro.cha.tur.cu



Following are the hotels open in each province:

Artemisa: Las Terrazas Complex and Horizontes Soroa

Havana: Cubanacán Comodoro, Cubanacán El Viejo y el Mar and Cubanacán Bello Caribe

Matanzas: Hotel E Velasco - Louvre, Brisas del Caribe (Varadero) and Cubanacán Playa Larga (Ciénaga de Zapata)

Villa Clara: Cubanacán Los Caneyes and Hotel E Barcelona

Sancti Spiritus: Cubanacán Las Cuevas (Trinidad)

Camagüey: Hotel E Santa María and Brisas Santa Lucía (Santa Lucía beach)

Holguín: Hotel E Caballeriza and Brisas Guardalavaca (Guardalavaca beach)

Santiago de Cuba: Cubanacán Versailles and Cubanacán Casagrande





Sun Clinics

Vacation Health



The Comercializadora de Servicios Médicos Cubanos S.A. medical services company offers excellent medical care throughout the country, with multidisciplinary teams made up of highly trained and experienced doctors, nurses, technicians, engineers, technologists and psychologists. They are characterized for their professional and humane treatment of each patient and their families, respect, and ethics in their daily practice.

The company has **Sun Clinics** (Clínicas del Sol) in the country's main tourist destinations, which guarantee the attention of travelers and offer medical care of the highest level during their stay in Cuba. That is the case of **Varadero**, whose facilities have a comprehensive and specialized Medical Office, with the possibility of home consultation, that is, in the tourist facility, as well as a Pharmacy.





✉ smc@smcsaludcuba.cu

🌐 [smcsaludcuba](https://www.smcsaludcuba.cu)

🌐 www.smcsaludcuba.cu

The medical work is complemented by the Nursing service, which has an accompaniment system, caregivers and occupational therapists. Psychological support is also offered by specialists and the medical transportation service, with medical or nursing accompaniment.

The Clinic's programs available to travelers include different types of check-ups: basic check-ups, preventive check-ups for elderly or hypertensive patients, and complementary cardiovascular, pediatric and comprehensive outpatient medicine tests. This is the only Cuban tourist destination whose Clinic offers Hemodialysis service for travelers with chronic kidney failure.

The Varadero Clinic has updated its health protocols, to adapt them to the new international health reality and to the demands of the Cuban Ministry of Public Health. Travelers who test positive for COVID-19 upon entering the country will be referred to the Hotel Hospital, in Varadero itself, and the Clinic will carry out all the necessary complementary tests to determine their health status. Thus, if visitors have a chronic disease, which means risks to their



life due to the virus, they will be placed under personalized medical surveillance. The clinic will offer this service to all travelers who arrive in Varadero, even if they cannot assume the costs, since the health of patients and the protection of other guests and hotel service personnel is a priority for the Sun Clinics.

In other important tourist destinations in Cuba, such as Jardines del Rey, the Sun Clinics guarantee safe vacations in the event of any health eventuality.

The Empresa Comercializadora de Servicios Médicos S.A. celebrates its first 10 years of success, in full growth and diversification of its professional services. It is currently one of the pillars that endorse Cuba as a safe tourist destination in the Caribbean.

Coral Level at **IBEROSTAR** SELECTION ESMERALDA



Conceived for those who wish to enjoy a superior experience on their vacations, the new proposal of the Iberostar Group in Cuba will open its doors on December 22. Let us tell you what it's about and invite you to be among the first to know the youngest tourist destination in Cuba, in an exceptional way.

On the beachfront with fine white sand, in Cayo Cruz, we find the **Coral Level at Iberostar Selection Esmeralda**. This is a hotel specially designed for the enjoyment of holidays as a couple or with friends, integrated into the rich biodiversity of the area.

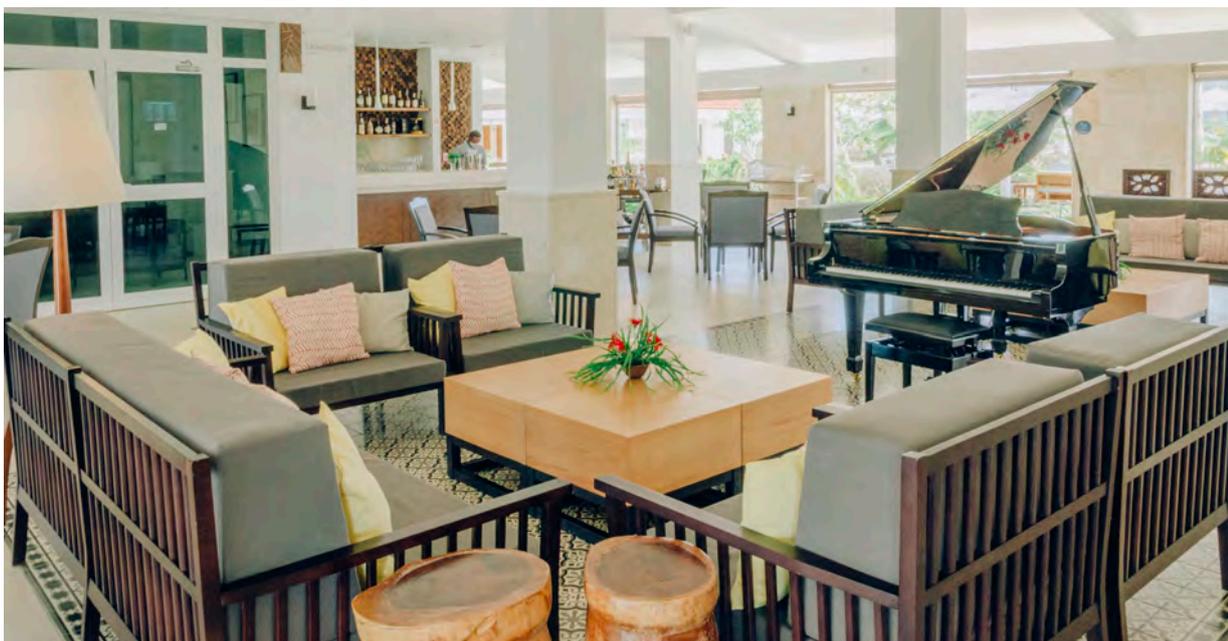
Its simple and elegant architectural style is inspired by the typical Cuban coffee plantations of the 19th century, with tropical gardens that extend throughout its facilities.

Its 121 dream rooms are distributed in bungalows, surrounded by local vegetation, in which two swimming pools are inserted that all

Coral Level guests can enjoy. But for those who want a day of absolute relaxation and privacy, the hotel reserves another pool, located in the *Day Pool Garden Ágata*, a private area that has an exclusive chill out terrace.

For the care of the mind and body, guests can take advantage of a fully equipped gym and a Spa Sensations. Lovers of contemplative diving will find an impressive biodiversity in the seabed of Cayo Cruz and will be able to access all the facilities to live that experience.

The conception of gastronomy plays an important role in Iberostar hotels, through the Honest Food program, which is based on the consumption of fresh and natural homemade products. This hotel group promotes respect for what we eat and the environment, and invites you to discover new cultures and destinations through cuisine. Coral Level at Iberostar Selection Esmeralda will allow unleashing the palate and will please the most demanding diners in its three specialty restaurants: gourmet, Cuban and Mediterranean. In its



Cigar Bar, guests will find the best selection of Habanos vitolas, along with Cuban rums and spirits. For MICE tourism, the Coral Level has a fully equipped conference room with capacity for 30 people.

This hotel will be inaugurated free of single-use plastics in its rooms and is committed to eliminating them completely in all its areas, one of the pillars of Iberostar's *"Wave of Change"* program, which includes moving towards a circular economy, promoting responsible fish consumption and coastal health care.



The Iberostar Group, present for more than 25 years in Cuba, manages about 20 hotels in the country, and works in favor of responsible tourism. Its commitment to quality is reinforced with the opening of the Coral Level at Iberostar Selection Esmeralda, a hotel that will quickly become a benchmark when talking about Cayo Cruz, the youngest tourist destination in Cuba.

Three CLASSIC HOTELS in HAVANA



In Havana, three hotels of the Gran Caribe Group, recognized for their historical-cultural significance and the excellence of their services, are now ready to receive new guests, once the activity of international travel is resumed on November 15.

Located in the central Vedado district, the **NH Capri Hotel** has received since last February those guests who, upon arrival in Cuba, took advantage of the quarantine period established by the health authorities. This stage of less influx of travelers was used to implement improvements in technological systems such as air conditioning, and investments were made in the swimming pool and kitchen areas, restoration of furniture, painting and other details in the rooms. As of this new season, it will start offering free Internet connection service via Wi-Fi.

NH Capri has a history that dates back to 1957, when it was inaugurated as an American mafia business. After the revolutionary triumph, it continued to receive travelers who enjoyed its excellent services, and after the renovations completed in 2014, the facility was included in the portfolio of the prestigious Spanish chain NH Hotels.

For its part, the **Hotel Nacional de Cuba**, a jewel of the country's hotel industry, reopened its doors last December 30, in commemoration of its 90th anniversary. Since then it has catered to more than 14,800 guests. New comers who visit it will find a completely renovated hotel, with both swimming pools revamped, new sale



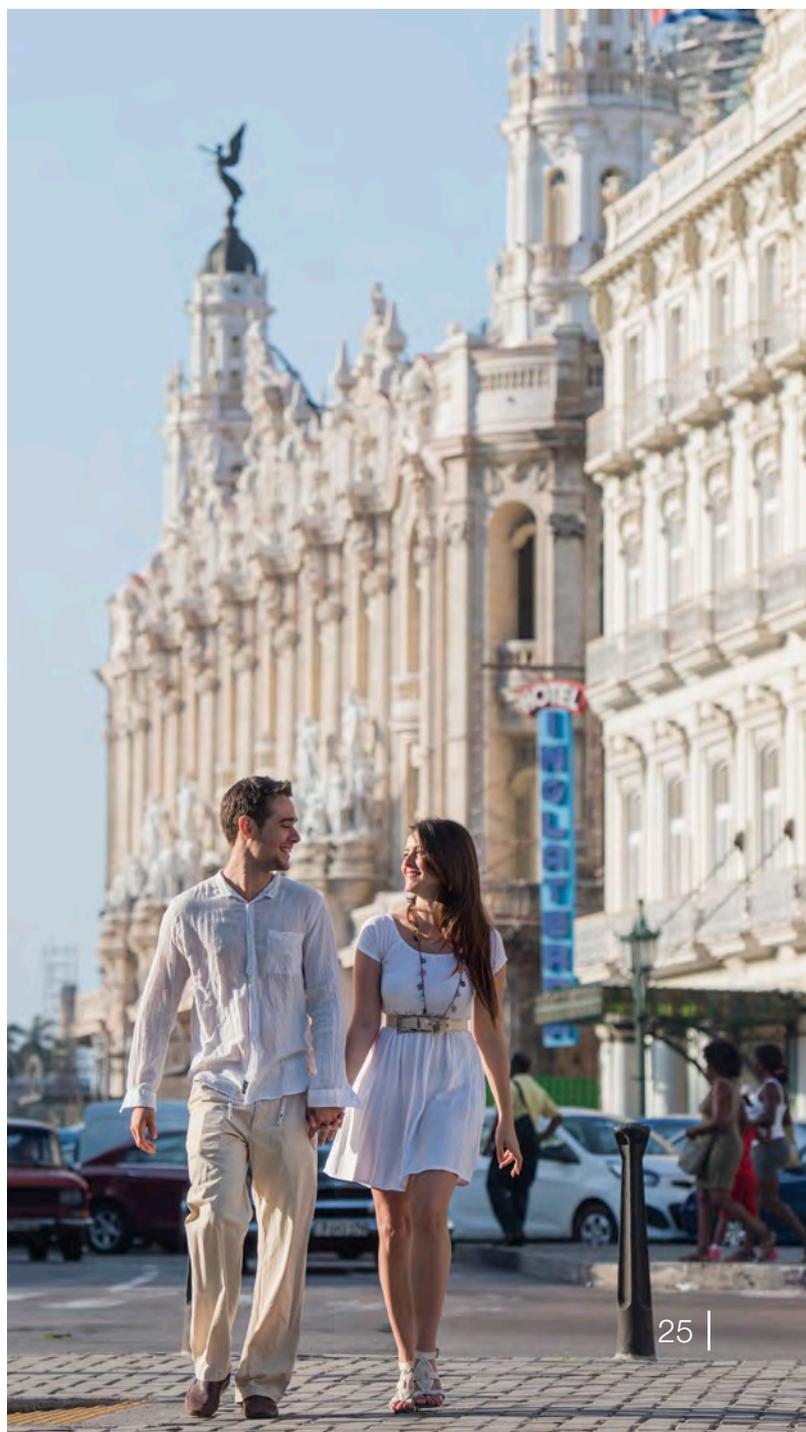
The Inglaterra Hotel was inaugurated on December 23, 1875, and has welcomed such illustrious guests as Sarah Bernhardt and María Félix, famous ballerina Anna Pavlova, poets Julián del Casal and Rubén Darío, singers Enrico Caruso, Imperio Argentina and José Mujica, playwrights Federico García Lorca and Jacinto Benavente, British politician Winston Churchill and bullfighter Luis Mazzantini.

Due to its architectural, cultural and historical values, the Inglaterra Hotel was declared a National Monument, a condition with which the aforementioned Hotel Nacional de Cuba was also distinguished.

outlets and areas for enjoyment. In these months, its managers have maintained contact with collaborators, guests and tour operators, and it is ready to begin international operations.

A symbol of history, culture and Cubanness, the Hotel Nacional has hosted hundreds of celebrities from the arts, sciences and politics. Its rooms have witnessed the visit of public figures such as Winston Churchill, Frank Sinatra, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, scientist Alexander Fleming, countless European heads of state and monarchs, among others.

Finally, the **Inglaterra Hotel**, the oldest in the Cuban capital that is still in operation, has also kept receiving travelers in quarantine and at the same time has made improvements that have benefited this establishment. Among the most significant are the restoration of the lobby, with its classic Seville tiles and its refined carpentry.



FIVE reasons to go DIVING in CUBA



With more than 5,000 km of coastline and an area that includes 4,195 keys and islets in the archipelago, Cuba is considered one of the most complete diving destinations in the Caribbean. Cuban tourism and environmental authorities promote this activity as one of the most spectacular to be carried out in beach destinations, always taking care of the conservation of the underwater environment.

Through its innovative www.marinasmarlin.com website, the Marlin Nautical and Marinas Enterprise offers detailed information on the offers and possibilities for diving in the largest of the Caribbean islands.

Here are five of the many reasons to dive in Cuba:



1 In Cuba it is possible to dive all year round. The specialized centers operate every day, as the tropical climate softens the marked difference between summer and winter that affects other destinations.

2 Underwater visibility can reach 50 meters from November to May. In summer it decreases to a range of 15-20 meters, but it is also very favorable for enjoying underwater landscapes and contemplative diving.

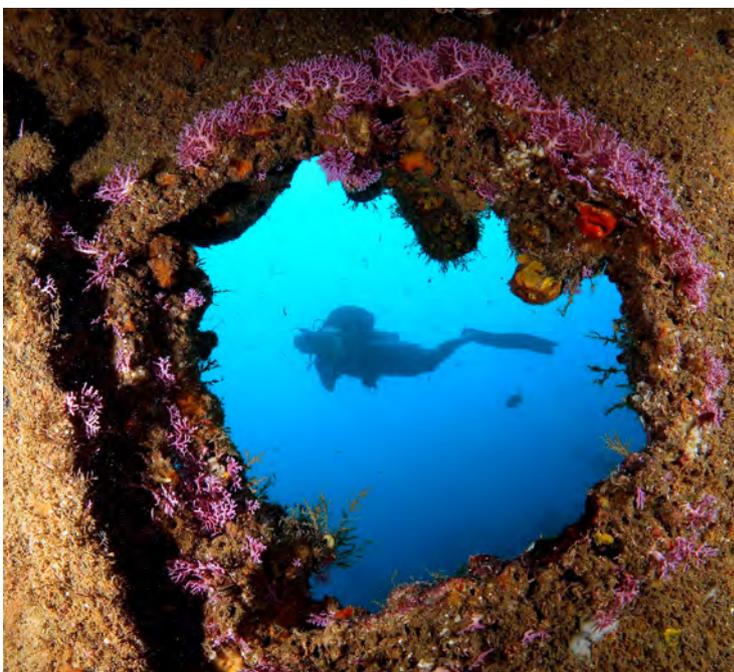
3 During the winter season, the southern coast of Cuba remains calm in the face of cold fronts coming from North America. This advantage is used by numerous facilities such as those located in Ancón, Faro Luna, Cayo Largo del Sur or Playa Girón.

4 The proximity of the dive sites to the mainland means that the navigation time to reach them is very short. In some cases, the use of boats is not even required.



5 Diving in Cuba is very safe and the facilities that organize the dives accumulate more than 15 years of experience. Instructors with international certification and knowledge of several languages always accompany the expeditions, whether they are experienced divers or beginners.

There are more than 500 well-studied dive sites in the Cuban archipelago. The 1,500 recorded marine species, more than 50 corals, 200 types of sponges and the numerous schools of tropical fish are the attractions that await those who love underwater life.



Blue Diamond waits for you in Cuba



Blue Diamond Resorts, a Canadian hotel chain that manages numerous establishments in Cuba, invites you to once again enjoy the impressive white-sand beaches and the emblematic cities of the largest of the Caribbean islands, offering in its hotels the first-class amenities that are the hallmark of this company.

In an official note about the reopening of its facilities, Blue Diamond has stated that, with rigorous biosafety measures, they are eager to welcome travelers again. In this edition and for the knowledge of tourism professionals and travelers, we update the reopening schedule planned by Blue Diamond Resorts in Cuba, as well as the hotels that are currently available for reservations:



HAVANA

- Memories Miramar Habana | Open
- Starfish Montehabana | December 20, 2021

VARADERO

- Grand Memories Varadero | Open
- Sanctuary at Grand Memories Varadero | Open
- Royalton Hicacos | Open
- Starfish Varadero | Open
- Starfish Cuatro Palmas | December 20, 2021
- Starfish Las Palmas | December 20, 2021
- Mystique Casa Perla | November 15, 2021
- Memories Varadero | December 20, 2021
- Memories Jibacoa | Open

CAYO SANTA MARÍA

- Royalton Cayo Santa María | Open
- Grand Memories Santa María | November 15, 2021
- Sanctuary at Grand Memories Santa María | November 15, 2021
- Memories Paraíso | December 20, 2021
- Starfish Cayo Santa María | December 20, 2021

TRINIDAD

- Memories Trinidad del Mar | November 25, 2021

JARDINES DEL REY

- Memories Caribe | Open
- Memories Flamenco | Open
- Starfish Cayo Guillermo | December 20, 2021



Blue Diamond's Guaranteed Safe Vacation program protects both guests and company members through 9 pillars, including new guidelines for physical distancing, increased team training, 360° cleanliness in all common areas and "Diamond" in the rooms, completely disinfecting each point of contact.

Blue Diamond Resorts was created in 2011 and has become the fastest growing group of hotel complexes in the Caribbean. It currently has 45 properties that exceed 15,500 rooms in 10 countries. To learn more about its hotels in Cuba, we invite you to visit its website: www.bluediamondresorts.com



Jazz Plaza Festival 2022

From Havana to Santiago de Cuba

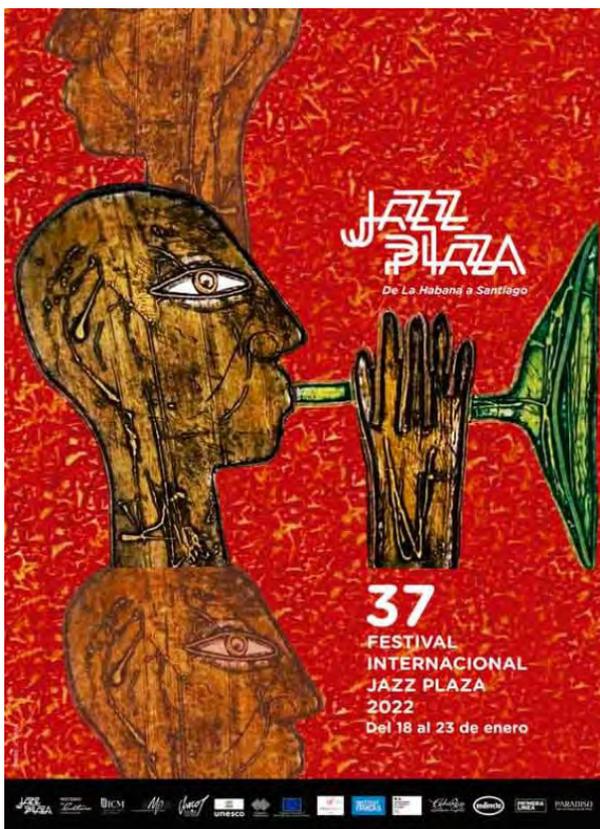
The 2022 Jazz Plaza International Festival invites you to enjoy the best music at the start of the year, since its 37th edition is scheduled for January 18-23, an excellent time to travel to Cuba. Ever since its presentation, the organizers

have drawn attention to the alliance between music and visual arts, because this year the event's poster has been made by Eduardo Roca (Choco), National Prize for Plastic Arts.

It is a festival with Jazz as the motive, but in itself, it is a festival for all music. Its realization has been planned as a hybrid event, since it will maintain its presence on social networks, an experience lived in the 2021 edition, and also in physical venues, such as the Plaza Casa de la Cultura, where the Festival arose and to which its name pays tribute. In Havana, the festival will reach the Karl Marx, Nacional and América theaters, and other spaces such as the Cuban Art Factory, the Cuba Pavilion and the Mella Theater Gardens. In Santiago de Cuba it will hit the stages of the Sala Dolores, the Iris Jazz and the Patio de la UNEAC.

Jazz Plaza 2022 will have the logistical support of *Transcultura*, a UNESCO program that for the first time joins the organization of the event. It does so with the proposal of holding small parallel workshops, which facilitate exchange between artists from various countries and promote their insertion into the European market.

The 2022 Jazz Plaza International Festival program includes the long-awaited concerts and the *Leonardo Acosta in Memoriam* theoretical meeting. This is a highly anticipated musical event every year in Cuba, because in addition to bringing together the most important names in the genre worldwide, it serves as a launching pad for new talents.





IBERO-AMERICAN SUMMIT ON ACCESSIBLE TOURISM

This December, the Hotel Nacional de Cuba will host the 4th Ibero-American Summit on Accessible Tourism, which will take place from the 15th to 19th.

This event is organized by the Cuban Ministry of Tourism and the Ibero-American Network of Accessible Tourism, and has the support, among others, of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the ECOTUR Travel Agency, the Skedio Travel Group, and the Gran Caribe Hotel Group.

The Summit will have the participation of recognized experts in accessible tourism worldwide, representatives of international organizations in the tourism sector and

representatives of tourist destinations. Suppliers of equipment for tourist facilities and services that guarantee the enjoyment of accessible and inclusive tourism will also participate.

Within the framework of the event, the *Declaration of Havana for Accessible and Inclusive Tourism in Latin America and the Caribbean* will be presented and signed. Representatives of the tourism sector from the governments of Ibero-American countries have been summoned for this important occasion.

For details on participation in the Summit, we invite you to contact the organizers at: esp.eventos@occ.ecotur.tur.cu





Sunwing announces flights from Ottawa and Quebec to Cuba

The Sunwing Group reported the incorporation of routes from the cities of Ottawa and Quebec to Cuba, with new itineraries as of November. According to a press release published on its official website, the flight schedule is as follows:

From Ottawa International Airport:

TO CAYO SANTA MARÍA: every Friday as of November 12, 2021 to April 8, 2022.

TO VARADERO: Sundays and Thursdays as of November 14, 2021 to April 7, 2022.

TO CAYO COCO: Tuesdays as of November 16, 2021 to April 12, 2022.

TO HOLGUÍN: Tuesdays as of December 14, 2021 to April 12, 2022.

From Quebec International Airport:

TO CAYO COCO: Sundays as of November 7, 2021 to April 10, 2022; and Wednesdays from December 8, 2021 to April 20, 2022.

TO HOLGUÍN: Sundays as of December 5, 2021 to April 10, 2022.

TO CAYO SANTA MARÍA: Saturdays as of November 6, 2021 to April 9, 2022; and Wednesday as of December 8, 2021 to April 20, 2022.

TO VARADERO: Mondays and Fridays as of November 1, 2021 to April 25, 2022; and Wednesdays and Saturdays as of December 8, 2021 to April 13, 2022.

"After a difficult year, we are eager to bring the residents of the Canadian capital back to the tropics under our wing," said Andrew Dawson, COO of Sunwing Travel Group.

"We are delighted that Sunwing is returning to Québec City this winter with flights to sunny destinations that are very well received," said Stéphane Poirier, President and CEO of Jean Lesage International Airport.

Cuban beach resorts are favorites of Canadian travelers, who until 2019 constituted the first issuing market for international tourism to the Caribbean country.





CREATING ADVENTURES

Ecotur has everything you need in nature, adventure and rural tourism, offering you programs, excursions and circuits and the possibility of acting as an events tour operator.

WEST

Excursion to Las Terrazas
Nature Tour Viñales
Tobacco Route
Nature Tour Jibacoa
Nature Tour Varadero
Excursion to Soroa

VARADERO – CENTER

Ciénaga de Zapata Jeep Safari
Bird Watching Nature Tour
Jeep Three Cities
Jeep Nature Tour Nicho – Cienfuegos

CIEGO – CAMAGÜEY

Jeep All Pleasures
Sunset By Jeep
Loma de Cunagua Jeep Safari

EAST

Salto del Guayabo Safari
Monte Cabaniguán Safari
Comandancia La Plata Safari
Gran Piedra Safari
Mountain Safari
Overnight Baracoa in Safari

@ecoturcuba



www.ecoturcuba.tur.cu



CUBANACAN, ALL ABOARD!!

Cubanacan Hotels makes your vacations an unforgettable experience. Our diversity of products and services facilitate your likes and fulfill your expectations. Nature, diving, culture and tradition, sun and beach are some of the options you can choose. Enjoy a different experience every day with us.

With Cubanacan hotels, all aboard.



DIVING



**TRADITIONS
AND
CULTURE**



NATURE