



January 4-11, 2014

Literary HAVANA



Led by writer Tom Miller *Author, [Trading with the Enemy](#)*

Join us on this very special trip to Cuba with Tom Miller and be exposed to its literary traditions as they have developed from pre-independence to today. Meet the people of Cuba and enjoy the music and culture of the island. This trip is open to professional researchers with documented experience in the literary world. It is also open to general interest travelers who have a special interest in Cuba's rich literary tradition and who could benefit by exposure to the Cuban people.

Literary Havana travelers will make new friends and build relationships with everyday Cubans. Additionally we will be exposed to colonial, art deco, and contemporary architecture, experience the country's lively music and its deep rooted culture. We will discuss Cuban poetry and literature with some of the island's most articulate writers. Cuba's warm and welcoming people are waiting to engage with you and learn first-hand about Americans and our values.



What is People-to-People travel?

In 2012 US President Obama reinstated People to People educational travel, which allows Americans to travel to Cuba, via a Specific License, issued by the US Department of the Treasury (OFAC). All programs under this License, issued to Project Por Amor Inc. include a full time schedule of educational exchange activities designed to promote meaningful interactions between Americans and the people of Cuba. People to People travel is not tourist oriented or self directed but it is both rewarding and unique. It allows participants to visit a wide scope of organizations, institutions, and community projects that provide a deeper understanding of Cuba, its people and its culture.

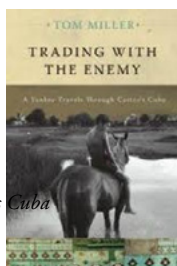
Price includes:

- * Meet and greet at Miami International Airport
- * Round trip air from Miami to José Martí International Airport in Havana
- * Departure tax in Miami
- * Cuban Visa
- * Medical Insurance in Cuba
- * Round trip ground transfers in Havana to and from the airport
- * 7 nights at Hotel Plaza in the heart of Old Havana
- * All in-country ground transportation
- * 7 Breakfasts, 6 lunches, 3 dinners (16 meals total)
- * Bilingual Cuban Tour Guide
- * Organized program of “People to People” activities and entry fees.
- * “People to People” License
- * General License paperwork if required
- * The trip will be led by writer and Cuba expert Tom Miller. (A copy of his *Trading with the Enemy* will be provided all participants.)

PROGRAM PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- * Cost of US domestic airfare to/from Miami
- * Any baggage fees
- * Tips (restaurants, hotel, guide service)
- * Trip Interruption insurance
- * Departure taxes at José Martí International Airport

Trading With The Enemy:
A Yankee Travels Through Castro's Cuba
www.tommillerbooks.com
Visit Cuba with Tom Miller



Tom Miller in Havana, photo by Nick Miroff

TOM MILLER, a veteran of the underground press of the late 1960s and early '70s, has been an annual visitor to Cuba since 1987. He has written about the country for the New York Times, Smithsonian, LIFE, Esquire, Washington Post, and Natural History, among other outlets. He was a founder and director of the US-Cuba Writers Conference (a since suspended effort at literary détente), and has led tours of the island for National Geographic Expeditions as well as his own annual Literary Havana trips.



Estimated Cost

\$3575 per person (double occupancy)

\$3975 per person (single room)

Note: If you qualify as a professional in the literary field conducting research we will deduct \$250 from your trip price.

For more information contact Tom Miller at 520-325-3344 or tmlolinero@msn.com
OR Cuba Tours and Travel at 888 225-6439 ext 802.

To sign up for this trip please open the following link:
http://tourinfosys.com/signup/lit_hav



134 S Ave 57
Los Angeles, CA 90042
Tel 310-961-1574



320 Pine Avenue, Suite 503,
Long Beach, CA 90802
Tel 1 888 225-6439, Fax 1 562 684-0174
cst. #2073790-40

PAYMENT SCHEDULE Your deposit is due 90 days before departure. Full payment of the balance due to CTAT will be required 45 days prior to departure. Changes and cancellations 30 days before departure will be refunded based on the refund policy found in the terms and conditions.

CUBA TOURS AND TRAVEL is a full-service agency licensed by the U.S. Government Tsp# 2073790-40

LICENSING DESCRIPTION Project Por Amor LLC is a Los Angeles based organization devoted to cultural understanding and exchange between Cubans and Americans. Project Por Amor holds the Specific License number No. CT-2012-298503-1. This license allows an educational exchange program not involving academic study and authorizes the participants to engage in in people to people contact with the Cuban People that will result in meaningful interactions designed to learn about everyday Cubans and their situation and inform them of our country, its history and future. Cuba Tours and Travel (CTAT) is a Treasury Department Travel Service Provider (TSP) that is primarily devoted to assisting travel license holders. As the designated, licensed Travel Service Provider for this trip, CTAT is authorized to provide the travel arrangements listed above. Once the travelers are approved to travel through the Project Por Amor travel program CTAT will make the travel arrangements described in this brochure. We also look forward to implementing your program with the goal of insuring that it is followed.

For more information on OFAC licensing please visit the following document:
http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Documents/cuba_tr_app.pdf

Itinerary

Day 1

Saturday, 4 January, 2014 Arrive in Havana City

2:00 pm

Arrive in Havana; check in to Hotel Plaza

Barrio Chino

Contracted Chinese workers, almost all male, came to Cuba in waves over the decades, working in sugar mills, in agriculture, and in Havana itself. Many married Cubans resulting in a culture that today is centered in Barrio Chino. We are fortunate to have Relga Albarrán, raised in Barrio Chino, lead us on a walking tour of the neighborhood pointing out its social centers, historic churches, theaters, and markets, as well as the senior citizens home for elderly Chinese.

4:00 pm

Late lunch at Tien-Tan (on your own)

One of the Barrio Chino's best authentic Chinese restaurants, Tien-Tan ('Temple of Heaven') is run by a couple whose menu offers 130 dishes. A table on the patio guarantees a front row seat along El Cuchillo, a bustling pedestrian walkway traversed by Cubans and international visitors alike.

5:00 pm

Walking tour of Barrio Chino

7:30 pm

Dinner at Decameron Paladar

Day 2

Sunday, 5 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

9:30 am

Old Havana Four Plazas

We will tour Old Havana on foot, walking between the four main plazas that comprise Cuba's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. We'll start at the Plaza de Armas, site of the oldest Spanish fortress in the Americas, the 1519 locale of the first mass in Cuba, and the massive Baroque seat of government, known as Palacio de los Capitanes Generales. We'll continue to Plaza de San Francisco de Assis and Plaza Vieja, where we will visit artist galleries and historic buildings. The walk, which winds through streets lining five centuries of historic architecture, gives a clear sense of the structure of the colonial city. We'll end at Plaza de la Catedral and see the Baroque cathedral.

11:00 am

Scale Model of Old Havana

12:30 pm

Lunch at Doña Eutimia; Cuban and Creole cuisine at Plaza de la Catedral

2:00 pm

Callejón de Hammel

This alley, located in the working class Cayo Hueso quarter, serves as an open-air Afro-Cuban Religion Sanctuary, the work of local artist Salvador González. Its walls are adorned with evocative Santería murals paying homage to religious belief systems of African origin. It hosts the famous Afro-Cuban rumbas that take place every Sunday afternoon. González, a self-trained artist, will be present. In addition to live and lively dancing and drumming, the Callejón hosts an art gallery and art school for neighborhood children. From its inception, González has refused funding from various government cultural institutions, preferring to support his activities from the sale of art work and donations.

7:30 pm

Dinner on your own. We will recommend a restaurant or paladar.





Day 3

Monday, 6 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

9:30 am

Transfer from Havana to Matanzas

12:30 pm

Lunch at Restaurant Velazco

2:00 pm

Ediciones Vigía in Matanzas

The publishing house Ediciones Vigía, founded in 1985, produces hand-made, limited run, one of a kind books. Members of the Vigía cooperative take on egalitarian roles, printing, cutting, pasting, editing and binding each book. We will watch them in action as well as engage in discussion about Cuban publishing. Some copies of their titles will be available.

4:30 pm

Transfer from Matanzas to Havana

7:30 pm

Dinner on your own

Day 4

Tuesday, 7 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

9:30 am

Ferry ride from Old Havana across Havana Bay to visit the historic City of Regla.

10:15 am

Visit Our Lady of Regla Church, a church built in homage to the Black Virgin, with a breathtaking gilt altar beneath an arched ceiling. The black Madonna is the patron saint of sailors. The church, a community, human-scale affair, serves a neighborhood that includes women who greet visitors and predict their future.

11:15 am

Guanabacoa Museum

This one-of-a-kind museum located in a town adjoining Havana, comprises objects of the popular Cuban religions of African origins: Regla de Osha, Reglas Congas and the Abakuá Secret Religious Societies. A guide will show, through exhibits and description, the history of Cubans brought from West Africa to the island, and how these slaves maintained their beliefs and mixed them with Catholicism. The result was syncretism, which today defines the various Afro-Cuban religions.

12:30 pm

Lunch at Doña Carmela

Excellent food in a garden offering criolla and international cuisine. Known for its friendly and efficient service, dining at Doña Carmela takes place in the backyard of a private residence under trellises designed for the paladar.

3:00 pm

Ernest Hemingway's Finca La Vigía

We'll visit Ernest Hemingway's Finca La Vigía, located on a hilltop in the village of San Francisco de Paula, on the southeast outskirts of Havana. The home has recently been the subject of a massive effort by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to arrange the home just as the author left it in 1961. The grounds include the cemetery for Hemingway's many cats, a swimming pool, and his famous sport-fishing boat, the *Pilar*. Out-buildings on the grounds house the Hemingway archives, where documents he left behind still exist. Finca Vigía and the fishing village of Cojímar—from which the old man left for the sea—are considered the most significant locales for those interested in Hemingway's life and writing.

7:30 pm

Dinner at Santo Angel

This restaurant, located in a colonial mansion in the heart of Old Havana, offers lobster and other seafood. From its patio we can watch visitors to Plaza Vieja, an active urban center.



Day 5

Wednesday, 8 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

9:00 am

Visit Teatro Bertolt Brecht, where Cuban director Edgar Estaco and playwright Pedro Ángel Verá will host a discussion on Cuban theater, contemporary and historical, followed by a rehearsal for the play in production.

11:00 am

La Casa de la Comunidad Hebrea de Cuba

We'll visit La Casa de la Comunidad Hebrea de Cuba (El Patronato), the Jewish community center that works to preserve Hebrew traditions and pride on the island. This venue is located on the ground floor of a renovated synagogue that hosts High Holy Day services. The Patronato pharmacy accepts donated over-the-counter medicines, available to any Cuban who walks in. Adela Dworin, President of the Patronato, will brief us on the history of Cuban Jews.

12:30 pm

Lunch at Punto G Cafetería

2:30 pm

Binational Literary Mixer

A rare and informative event, this literary mixer at the Centro Habana rooftop home of internationally published poet Reina María Rodríguez offers an opportunity to meet Cuban writers, poets, and others in the country's literary world. A bilingual poetry reading concludes the visit.

7:00 pm

Sunset cocktail at Hotel Nacional

Roam the extensive hotel lobby floor with its rich 20th century history. The north patio offers a magnificent view of the Malecón and the Caribbean.

8:30 pm

Dinner on your own

We will suggest a variety of Havana paladares and make reservations for you.

Day 6

Thursday, 9 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

10:00 am

Museo de Bellas Artes

We'll visit the Cuban collections in this striking modernist building which was completed in 1953, and exemplifies the combination of sculpture with architecture in Cuban mid-century modernism. The Palace of Fine Arts houses an elaborate and noteworthy collection of Cuban visual art that spans four centuries.

11:30 am

José Martí House Museum

Martí was born in this modest Habana Vieja home that today tells his story and houses the belongings of Cuba's National Hero and his family.

1:00 pm

El Aljibe criolla cuisine is a well-known outdoor thatch roof restaurant located in the residential area of Miramar, not far from downtown. It's known for a flavor originally created and maintained by a family on the El Aljibe farm years ago. The house specialty is roast chicken with French fries and fried plantains, black beans, rice, salad; national sweets comprise the dessert.

3:00 pm

Riverside Santería Ceremony at El Bosque de La Habana

A group of believers in Santería will conduct an authentic ceremony on the banks of the Almendares River. Santería, a religion that blends Yoruba from West Africa with Catholicism, involves chanting in the Yoruba language, drumming, and symbolic activity. We are fortunate to have the cooperation of an authentic group of santeros for this occasion.



4:00 pm

This afternoon is open to revisit places of particular appeal, walk the Malecón, peruse the used/rare book stalls at the Plaza de Armas, or visit unexplored corners of Havana.

7:30 pm

Dinner at La Guarida (on your own)

This internationally known jazzy paladar, located in a rundown Centro Habana building, was the location for much of the Academy Award finalist, “Strawberry and Chocolate.”

9:00 pm

La Zorra y el Cuervo

Listen to the finest jazz performers in Cuba

Day 7

Friday, 10 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

10:00 am

Taller Experimental de Grafica

The Taller was established in 1962 by a small group of artists lead by Orlando Suárez, a muralist whose initiative also helped found the Superior Art Institute. Mr. Suárez was supported in this effort by the Chilean Poet Pablo Neruda and by Che Guevara who applauded his efforts to create a center where all artists of the City of Havana could go to produce prints. Today the Taller is more than a workshop. It is a studio, a school and most of all, an art institution that preserves and develops the sophisticated art of print making with relative freedom of spirit and form. While at the center you will see artworks produced there and have a conversation with the artists about their works and about life as an artist in Havana.

11:30 am

Fototeca de Cuba

Tour of Fototeca de Cuba, a well-known Photo-Art Gallery with exhibitions of nationally famous photographers and artists.

12:30 pm

Lunch at La Ferminia

Delicious meats served on skewers, Brazilian-style churrasqueria.

2:30 pm

Farmers’ market

7:30 pm

Farewell dinner at the home & studio of Havana artist Kadir Lopez

Day 8

Saturday, 11 January

7:00 am

Breakfast at the hotel

10:30 am

Check out of hotel

11:15 am

Transfer from hotel to the airport

3:00 pm

Depart Havana to Miami