



12 interesting facts about Cuba

1. The official name of Cuba is the Republic of Cuba or República de Cuba in Spanish. Despite being a communist country, Cuba still considers itself a Republic.
2. Cuba has one of the highest literacy rates in the world with almost all of the population (99.8%) being literate.
3. Cuba is the largest Caribbean island both in terms of size and population. It is also the 17th largest island in the world.
4. Vintage American cars from the 40s and 50s are still driving on Cuban roads. Many classic American cars are used as taxis in Cuba
5. Cuba is the only country in the world that has a double currency system. The official Cuban currency is the Cuban Peso (CUP), but also uses the Cuban Convertible Peso (CUC). Cubans use both currencies interchangeably!
6. Slavery in Cuba was abolished in 1886. It was one of the last countries to do so.
7. Cuba's main exports are sugar, tobacco and nickel.
8. Cuba has nine UNESCO World Heritage sites; two of them natural and the other seven cultural.
9. Ernest Hemingway lived in Cuba for twenty years and wrote two of his most famous novels there; *The Old Man and the Sea* and *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.
10. Cuba is home to the largest flamingo colonies in the western hemisphere. The Cuban hummingbird is the smallest bird in the world, measuring just 5cm from beak to tail. The worlds smallest frog also lives in Cuba. It is only 10mm (0.39 in) long.
11. Cuban life expectancy is 79.72. In the United States its 78.69.
12. Cuba is one of the safest countries in Latin America, with almost no violent crime.



- May 10-May 17, 2021
- Minimum enrollment: 10 participants
- Trip leaders: Doc Lo and Sarah Kelly

- Must enroll in UNIV290 in Spring 2021 (1hr elective)
 - Any trips to Cuba must have an academic component in order to be approved by the US and Cuban governments
- Taught in Preston
- Trip after finals



We will visit:

- Havana
- Regla
- Luyano



We will experience:

- Homestay with Cuban families
- Service opportunities
- Meeting with Cuba artist Salvador Gonzalez Escolana
(that's his painting in our Lobby)
- Dance performance
- Discussions with Cuban thought leaders
- Some of the most delicious food ever
- Horseback riding (optional)



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INCLUDED

- 7-nights' accommodations in Cuba (2 people per room)
 - Hotels and *casas particulares* (*vetted Bed and Breakfast homes*)
- Daily breakfast
- Most meals (as specified on the itinerary)
- Professional, bilingual guide for listed activities
- Local ground transportation for listed activities
- Pre-trip departure information
- Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department regulations
- Speaker fees
- Admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary
- Tips for guide and driver

NOT INCLUDED

- Cuban Visa (may be able to be included in our costs)
- Round-trip airfare from US to Havana
- Meals and activities other than listed on itinerary
- Individual house or hotel expenses (*room service, laundry fees, etc.*)
- Passport
- Souvenirs/gifts
- Travel insurance
- Single occupancy throughout the trip



COSTS PAID TO PRESTON

Program Fee	\$2,500
Program Activity Fee <i>(includes group transportation to/from airports in-country, emergency fees, etc.)</i>	\$100
Total	\$2,600
Preston Travel Grant	TBD

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Airfare	~\$650
Passport <i>(if you don't already have one, or if yours expires on or before July 2021, you need get on this now!)</i>	\$135
Required insurance through UofSC	\$30

OPTIONAL COSTS

Single room	\$400
Travel insurance	????
Souvenirs/gifts	????

Costs are subject to change

Other funding sources

- **Preston Magellan Explorer grant (\$500):**

[https://sc.edu/about/offices and divisions/undergraduate research/apply for funding/our funding/preston-researchers/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/undergraduate_research/apply_for_funding/our_funding/preston-researchers/index.php)

- **Walker Institute:**

[https://sc.edu/study/colleges schools/artsandsciences/walker institute/area studies/student scholarships and grants/index.php](https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/walker_institute/area_studies/student_scholarships_and_grants/index.php)

- **National Scholarships:**

[https://sc.edu/about/offices and divisions/study abroad/steps to study abroad/find scholarships/national scholarships/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/study_abroad/steps_to_study_abroad/find_scholarships/national_scholarships/index.php)



Preston Travel Grant

(available to all students currently living in Preston for the Cuba trip)

- Final amount is still to be determined
- Previous travel grants have been \$750-\$2,000
- Will be applied to your Spring tuition bill
- You will still need to make all payments for the trip
- **Not automatically applied to any costs**



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