

# Modernism Havana

*A six-day educational travel workshop*



**April 19 - 24, 2017**

***Led by Eduardo Luis Rodriguez and Rosa Lowinger***  
*Dade Heritage Trust*, in partnership with [Cuba Tours and Travel](#) is proud to offer our friends and supporters the opportunity to travel to Cuba and enjoy Modernism Havana, a six-day educational travel program led by Eduardo Luis Rodriguez and Rosa Lowinger. Tour dates are April 19-24, 2017. Join us as we explore the architecture, public spaces, culture and history of Cuba on this remarkable five-day journey!

*Christine Rupp, Executive Director*

## **Trip Cost**

### **Lodging at Hotel Capri**

\$3845.00 Per passenger

\$ 950.00 single supplement

## **Program Price Includes:**

- Arrival assistance at Jose Marti Airport (HAV) (only with purchase of air-sold separately)
- Transfers in and out from the airport to hotel (only with purchase of air-sold separately)
- Cuban Visa
- Licensing cost for People to People travelers
- Accommodations for 5 nights at Hotel Capri
- Daily breakfast at the hotel
- 4 Dinners
- 4 Lunches
- 6 visits to museums or organizations
- Artist studio visits as programmed
- Luxury motorcoach and/or van transportation for the whole program
- Translation by professional Cuba-based guide
- Our Cuba Travel Tips publication and other traveler guidance
- Program led by Eduardo Luis Rodriguez and Rosa Lowinger



**Program Price Does Not Include:**

- Airfare to Cuba (priced separately)
- Air from Home City to Miami
- Passports
- Tips (guide and driver, baggage handlers & restaurant staff)
- Trip Interruption Insurance
- Havana departure tax of 28 USD
- Single room differential (\$950)
- All other items not listed in “PROGRAM PRICE INCLUDES”

*Please note: This itinerary is subject to change and you will be kept informed of changes and receive final itinerary.*

[To Sign Up Click Here](#)

**Day 1 April 19, Wednesday****Meet and Greet at Miami International Airport**

Your group will be met by Rosa Lowinger and a Cuba Tours & Travel customer service representative to assist you with check-in and answer any last-minute questions.

**1:00 pm Arrive in Havana**

Arrive in Havana mid-day or early afternoon. The program for the day will be modified depending on what time of day we arrive.

**Welcome to Havana!**

### **2:00 pm Revolution Square (the primary political gathering place)**

Board bus and en route to hotels, stop at Plaza de la Revolución.

One of Havana's most dramatic examples of modern civic monumental architecture is the Plaza de la Revolución José Martí. Measuring nearly 24,000 sq. ft., surrounded by modern construction and featuring the enormous obelisk monument to Jose Marti, the plaza is built on the highest ground in Havana. Originally built in the 1950s, it has been repurposed in the period of the Cuban revolution as the main gathering place in the city.

### **3:00 pm Driving tour of El Vedado**

Join our experts on an initial driving tour along Vedado's streets to give you an orientation to the neighborhood where you will be staying. The tree-lined, elegant residential Vedado district dates back to the second half of the 19th century, but its present-day appearance really took shape beginning in the early 1900s. Most of the affluent Cuban families of the period built large and prestigious residential estates and lavish mansions ranging from neoclassical, art deco, beaux arts, eclectic, and modern. The Vedado district is presently being considered for World Heritage status.

### **4:30 pm Check into Hotel & Enjoy a Welcome Cocktail**

**6:30 pm: At Hotel Capri:** Introductory presentation to the city and its architecture by Eduardo Luis Rodríguez, and cocktails



### **7:45 pm - 9:45 pm - Dinner at San Cristobal Paladar**

Set in an early 20th Century mansion in the "Centro Habana" district of the city, San Cristobal Paladar is probably, the best restaurant in Havana. The cuisine, Cuban Creole with a very refined and international twist, has a five-star rating by many international food critics and was the site where U.S. President Barack Obama and his family dined during their recent visit to Havana. The owner of the restaurant will describe the visit during our dinner.

## Day 2 April 20, Thursday

**Introduction to Havana:** Colonial architecture and urbanism. Civil, religious and military buildings and spaces (16th to 19th centuries). This day will set the stage for our understanding of Havana's modern period. It will be a long day with a good deal of walking.

### 7:00-8:45 am Breakfast at the hotel

You will be met by your guide in the lobby after breakfast to begin the day's program.

### 8:45 AM- Board busses for departure

### 9.00 am: Departure from hotels (buses)

### 9:30 am Old Havana Four Plazas

The morning begins with a walking tour of the Four Plazas: *Plaza de Armas*, *Plaza Vieja*, *Plaza de San Francisco de Asis* and *Plaza de la Catedral*, giving you an insight to the truly magnificent and powerful place Cuba held in the Caribbean for centuries. The walking tour will be accompanied by Rodriguez and Lowinger, with tour guides providing assistance.



### 12:00 pm Lunch at Hotel Florida

We will have lunch in the beautiful boutique Hotel Florida, a 1885 colonial style building which offers a relaxing courtyard and excellent Cuban food at the intersection of the pedestrian Obispo and Cuba Streets in the heart of La Habana Vieja.



### 2:30 pm Drive by El Morro for a photo opportunity

Built on the high rock entrance to the Bay and completed in the early 1600s, El Morro Castle guard the Port of Havana, complete with dungeons, cannons and the iconic lighthouse.

## Afternoon

Recent urban and architectural renovations in the area of the former docks.

Colonial fortifications across the bay: Morro Castle and La Cabaña Fortress.

## 5:00 pm Drinks at El Floridita

Ernest Hemingway was known to say, “My mojito at La Bodeguita; my daiquiri at Floridita”, the world-famous bar and one of Papa’s favorites where it is rumored he invented the “daiquiri” with his regular bartender.

## 7:30 pm Dinner on your own

You will dine at a paladar of your choice from a list of the best restaurants in Havana. Our staff and your guide will help you with selection and making reservations. You can be adventurous and travel by taxi that our staff will also help you get and your return trip can be arranged by the establishment where you dine. The cost of this meal is not included in the price of the trip.

## Day 3 April 21, Friday

**In the morning:** Eclecticism, Art Nouveau, and Art Deco architecture in Las Murallas (The City Walls) district.

**In the afternoon:** Two masterpieces of modern architecture: The National Art Schools, and Richard Neutra’s De Schulthess house.

## 7:00 am Breakfast at the hotel

You will be met by your guide in the lobby after breakfast to begin the day’s program.

**Morning** Las Murallas district. Central Park and Prado Promenade, and their surrounding buildings.

## 9:15 am Parque Central and Vicinity



### **12:00 pm Lunch at Parque Central**

Located in the heart of Havana in the Central Park Square, we will enjoy a wide selection of lunch items at the buffet, and those who wish can also take a drink at the stunning rooftop bar overlooking the city.

### **12.00 – 1.30 pm: Lunch Restaurant El Aljibe, in Miramar, or paladares in the Miramar area**

### **2:30 pm ISA - Instituto Superior de Arte**

Regarded as the single most outstanding architectural achievement of the post-1950s era, the National Art Schools were conceived in the early 1960s and built on the grounds of the former Havana Country Club. Designed by Cuban architect Ricardo Porro together with Italians Roberto Gottardi and Vittorio Garatti, these organic Catalan-vaulted structures were partially left uncompleted and are the source of significant efforts for restoration.

### **4:30 PM House of Alfred de Schulthess**

Visit the house of Alfred de Schulthess (currently the Residence of the Swiss Ambassador in Cuba), designed by Richard Neutra (1954 – 1956). TBD based on the Ambassador's availability. Eduardo Luis Rodriguez has published extensively on this house and will address the group. If this visit cannot be coordinated, due to the new Ambassador's schedule, a similar singular architectural residence will be visited. A cocktail reception is planned if possible.

### **7:30 pm Dinner at Rio Mar**

For a city by the sea, Havana has precious few waterfront places to eat with ocean views. Set in a 1950s-apartment building, Rio Mar's terrace overlooks the spot where the Almendares River meets the Straits of Florida. Considered one of the best restaurants in Havana, the selection of fresh seafood is wonderful and the service is five star.

### **9:45 pm Tropicana Night Club (Optional not included)**

The Tropicana was the most famous nightclub in the world from 1939 to 1959. Built in the gardens of an early 20th century residence, it contains one of Cuba's most significant modern buildings, the Arcos de Cristal (1952), a thin-shell concrete structure by architect Max Borges Recio. The club continues to operate and is the only one of Havana's famed clubs to survive the revolution. Join Rosa Lowinger, author of the definitive history of Tropicana *Tropicana Nights: The Life and Times of the Legendary Cuban Nightclub* for a visit through the gardens of the building and the show, which is based on the 1950s cabaret era spectacles.



#### **Day 4 April 22, Saturday**

**All day long:** Eclecticism, Art Nouveau, Art Deco and Modern Movement architecture in El Vedado and Nuevo Vedado neighborhoods.

#### **7:00 am Breakfast at the hotel**

You will be met by your guide in the lobby after breakfast to begin the day's program.

#### **10:00 am Vedado and Modern Havana visits**

This day will form the heart of the modernism portion of the tour, beginning with a guided walking tour of the heart of Vedado and specific visits to buildings such as the Hotel Riviera (1957), Hotel Habana Libre, 1958 (formerly the Havana Hilton), and the University of Havana.

#### **11:00 am Christopher Columbus Cemetery - Necropolis Cristobal Colon**

The Vedado tour will continue with the Colon Cemetery, which was founded in 1876, and is one of the great historical cemeteries of the world. With 800,000 graves and sculpted monuments and mausolea, the cemetery is one of the city's most significant architectural sites.



#### **12:30 pm Lunch at Cafe Laurent**

A collaboration between Havana restaurateurs Lorenzo Enrique Nieto and José Figueroa, Café Laurent is one of the new chic spots in Havana that is located in a rooftop former apartment. Styled in a shabby chic 50s style, the food is excellent

#### **2:30 pm Nuevo Vedado Tour**

The area of the city known as Nuevo Vedado or New Vedado was developed in the 1950s and its compendium of medium to large residences from the period, many with original furnishings and decorative features is impressive. We will take bus tours of the area and visit several houses, some of which have been converted into artists studios and residences. In some places you will have the opportunity to view and purchase original fine art.

### **7:45 pm Dinner at La Guarida**

The location for the acclaimed Cuban movie, “Fresa y Chocolate”, La Guarida serves delectably sophisticated international cuisine in a building that was once the residence and office of a medical doctor. Owner of the paladar, Enrique Nuñez del Valle is one of the pioneers of the recent wave of fine gastronomy in



Cuba. He has been pouring resources from his business venture into the restoration of the impressive 19th-century building where the restaurant is located.

Afterwards, depending on available time and to general interests, possible visits to the newly opened Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC) an art and performance venue.

### **Day 5 April 23, Sunday**

In the morning: Modern Architecture and Visual Art.

### **7:00 am Breakfast at the hotel**

You will be met by your guide in the lobby after breakfast to begin the day’s program. The tour concludes with two extraordinary morning venues-- a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts Cuban paintings collections, guided by curator Aylet Ojeda and a visit to the rarely experienced Las Ruinas, a 1960s former restaurant built into ruins in Cuba’s Parque Lenin. The day will begin early in order to accommodate these two tours and allow for free time in the afternoon.

### **8:00 am Visit Restaurant Las Ruinas, Lenin Park**

Board the bus early for a visit to Parque Lenin, guided by Eduardo Luis Rodriguez.

### **11:00 am Museo de Bellas Artes Cuban art collection/Bellas Artes Museum**

National Museum of Fine Arts, Cuban Art Branch. Brief introductory lecture by curator Aylet Ojeda.





Walking tour of Museum on your own with a prepared guide sheet by Aylet or Rosa detailing highlights to see and why.

### **1:00 pm Daytime Visit and Lunch at Tropicana**

### **3:15 pm Afternoon on your own**

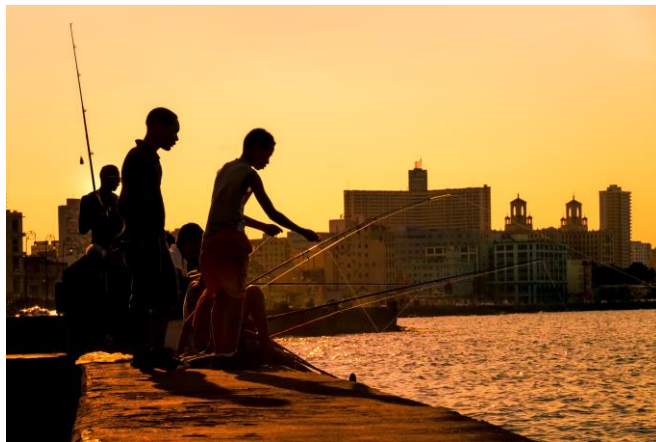
We will make recommendations for additional visits to art studios, museums, and crafts markets.

### **7:45 pm Dinner at Club Habana**

This fabulously eclectic 1928 mansion in Miramar, nearly frozen in time, that once housed the Havana Biltmore Yacht & Country Club, is an exclusive club overlooking the Caribbean founded in 1928 as the Biltmore Yacht and Country Club.

## **Day 6 April 24, Monday**

### **Return home**



### **7:00 am Breakfast at the hotel**

You will be met by your guide in the lobby after breakfast

### **9:30 am Check out of Hotel**

**10:00 am Transfer from a Havana Hotel to the Jose Marti International Airport**

**2:00 pm Depart Havana for Miami (TBD)**

**Cuba and her people bid you Adios! Hasta la proxima!**

**[To Sign Up Click Here](#)**



## Your Tour Leaders, Eduardo Luis Rodriguez and Rosa Lowinger

**Meet Eduardo Luis Rodriguez!** Cuban architect and architectural historian Eduardo Luis Rodriguez has spearheaded the study and promotion of Twentieth Century architecture in Cuba. He has served as curator of several major architectural exhibitions and authored numerous publications, including *La Habana. Arquitectura del siglo XX* (Blume, Barcelona, 1998) and *The Havana Guide, Modern Architecture, 1925-*

*1965* (Princeton Architectural Press, New York, 2000). Currently President of the Cuban Chapter of Docomomo International, he is also a member of the Cuban National Landmarks Commission and the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage. A Guggenheim Fellow, he served recently as a member of the Advisory Board for the Museum of Modern Art exhibition "Latin American in Construction: Architecture 1955-1980". Mr. Rodriguez has been the recipient of awards from the Venice Biennale, the Quito Pan-American Biennial and the International Committee of Architectural Critics (CICA). He lectures regularly in the international academic circuit, and will be a Visiting Scholar at Princeton University in 2017.



### Meet Rosa Lowinger!

[Rosa Lowinger](#) is a Cuban-American art conservator and writer with a specialty in art, architecture, and Cuban culture. The author of *Tropicana Nights: the Life and Times of the Legendary Cuban Nightclub* (Harcourt, 2005), a memoir and history of 1950s Havana, Rosa is a respected scholar and lecturer on Cuban art, architecture and modern heritage. She specializes in high-end, in-depth art and architecture programming and has designed and spearheaded Cuba travel programs for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Museum of Arts and Design in NY, the Menil Museum, the Bronx Museum, Art in General, the Association for Preservation Technology,

the Santa Monica Museum, and the American Institute for Conservation. Rosa guest curated the 2013 exhibit *Concrete Paradise: Miami Marine Stadium* at the Coral Gables Museum, and is presently guest curator for an exhibit on Cuba that will open in 2016 at the Wolfsonian Museum in Miami Beach, FL. She is a Fellow of the American Institute for Conservation and was the 2008-2009 Rome Prize winner in conservation.

## **Insurance Information and Medical EVACUATION**

We provide health insurance in Cuba as part of the program cost through the Cuban visitor's health insurance agency Assistour. Please see the terms of coverage below (Exhibit B). We will also offer each participant the option of choosing Trip Interruption insurance with our travel insurance partner, Access America Allianz Travel Insurance, at an added cost. <http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com/> .



[Cuba Tours and Travel](#) has over fifteen years of experience offering expert-driven cultural travel to Cuba. Our management and program-design team, working together with a team of superb Cuban travel associates in both Havana and Miami, are uniquely suited to offer you the finest in-depth travel program to the island. We are licensed by the US and Cuba and are fully insured. Most importantly, we have an abiding love for Cuban art and culture and have strong connections to the cultural institutions on the island.

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