



WE'RE HAVANA GOOD TIME

How to get the most out of the Cuban capital in just 48 hours

EVENING

Book ahead for an airport transfer in a polished Detroit beauty with Vintage Tours (malecon663.com) for £35. A regular yellow cab costs £19.50, and takes 40 minutes to Old Havana. Head into the narrow streets of the Old Town for a nightcap. Sip piña colodas with local artists and musicians on the alfresco terrace of El del Frente (Calle O'Reilly No. 303 between Habana and Aguiar Streets). Honing that Hemingway habit already? Pull up a bar stool at the novelist's favourite haunt, El Floridita (corner of Calle Obispo and Monserrate), for its signature icy daiquiri.



DAY ONE MORNING

Old Havana's lively, colourful streets, with restored squares, churches, courtyards, forts, fountains, alfresco cafes and shops, are made for walking.

Wander from the cafe-lined Barbers' Alley in the north down to Galería Gorría in the artsy district of San Isidro in the south. Grab coffee and a vegan sandwich from El Cafe (facebook.com/elcafehavana).

For a lunch of Cuban creole cuisine, choose Doña Eutimia (facebook.com/pg/DonaEutimia), off Cathedral Square.

AFTERNOON

Tour the Tiffany-embellished former presidential palace which now houses the Museum of the Revolution (Calle Refugio 1 between Calles Monserrate and Zulueta). £3.90. Then, in the golden light before dusk, hire a classic convertible with driver (from £23 an hour; cars stationed outside hotels Inglaterra, and Parque Central, Central Park) and motor out to the impressive fortresses of El Morro and La Cabaña, on the other side of Havana's harbour.

EVENING

Climb the marble steps of city favourite La Guarida restaurant (laguarida.com). After dinner join Havana's arty types and entrepreneurs at creative powerhouse Fábrica de Arte Cubano (fac.cu).



CLASSIC STYLE: Old Havana, above, and fashionable Fábrica de Arte Cubano bar, left. Inset, far left: Women prepare tobacco leaves to make cigars

DAY TWO MORNING

After breakfast in your hotel, walk down El Prado and take a left past Hotel Seville to Cuba's Fine Arts Museum. Then hire a cab to the H. Upmann cigar factory (San Carlos Street). Guided tours through the working factory pepper you with nuggets about the journey from tobacco leaf to the world's best cigars.

AFTERNOON

Lap up more of Havana's history on an e-bike tour (cubyke.com), or soak up the sun on the golden Eastern Beaches by catching the hop-on, hop-off HavanaBusTour (£4.90) before heading to the airport in the evening.

CLAIRE BOOBYER

KEY DETAILS

Virgin (virginatlantic.com) flies twice weekly from Gatwick to Havana from £469pp. Double rooms at **Iberostar Grand Packard** (iberostar.com) from €373 a night.

Journey Latin America

(journeylatinamerica.co.uk) offers holidays to Havana from £1,714pp including flights and accommodation.