



Trial Lawyers & Torts, Insurance  
& Compensation Law Sections

New York State Bar Association

# Journey to Cuba

A Delegation in Support  
of the Cuban People

November 7 - 11, 2024

**Open to Trial Lawyers or TICL Section Members and Guests Only**

# At a Glance: Cuba

## Included

- Accommodations as selected (Premium or Classic B&B)

*Note: Under US law, hotel stay in Cuba for US citizens is not currently authorized.*

- All ground transportation
- Full time private tour escort and local specialized guides
- Daily breakfast in Cuba and meals as listed in it inery (including tips)
- Custom Lecture Series enjoyed by attorneys and non-atorney companions
- Entrance fees (if applicable)
- Gratuities for restaurants at all group meals
- Compliance with US Treasury Department
- Cuban Visa/Tourist Card

## Not Included

- Round trip airfare to/from Cuba and associated fees
- Airline baggage fees
- Gratuities for guide and driver
- Additional meals not listed in itinerary
- Incidentals/Individual hotel expenses
- Trip cancellation insurance



The New York State Bar Association's Trial Lawyers and Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Sections invite you and your guest(s) to join our delegation for an eye-opening journey at this pivotal moment in U.S.-Cuba relations.

Our specially designed program will explore Cuba's rich and varied cultural heritage and go beyond tourist corridors by engaging with local scholars, attorneys, entrepreneurs, musicians and artists who will offer in-depth commentary on the Cuban legal and political system, economics, art, history, architecture and religion.

Don't miss out on this incredible chance to explore the richness of Cuba while earning MCLE credit (specific credits to be determined - stay tuned for updates)! Registration is exclusively open to NYSBA Trial Lawyers and TICL Section Members and Guests. Please note that membership will be verified upon registration for the program.

**DAY 1**  
**Thursday, November 7**  
**HAVANA**



**DAY 2**  
**Friday, November 8**  
**HAVANA VIEJA**



**DAY 3**  
**Saturday, November 9**  
**COJIMAR & PLAYAS DEL ESTE**



**DAY 4**  
**Sunday, November 10**  
**HAVANA & MIRAMAR**



**DAY 5**  
**Monday, November 11**  
**DEPARTURE DAY - Veterans Day (U.S.)**



## DAY 1 | Thursday, November 7

### Morning

Upon arrival at Havana International Airport (HAV): Clear immigration, customs and baggage. You will be greeted and escorted to your ground transportation. Welcome lunch at La Forest a in the upscale neighborhood of Siboney

### Afternoon

Check into your Casa Particular (B&B) . Private Bed & Breakfasts (or Casas Particulares) are a new form of private enterprise in Cuba affording Cuban homeowners and independent workers new employment opportunities, higher wages and incomes, increased Independence from the state, as well new ways to exchange with foreign guests.

### Evening

Private musical performance at a rooftop bar in Vedado. The band leader is Professor Alberto Faya who has been working as a musician, professor and researcher within the Cuban musical world since 1973, winning national awards in music and musicology. He will be joined by several young musicians for a historical journey of Cuban music.

Welcome dinner at the famous La Guarida restaurant. One of the best restaurants in Havana and famous not only for its delectable dining, but also as the location for the film Strawberry and Chocolate. It is housed on the third floor of a large, old town house carrying the charming ambience of the 1920's.

## DAY 2 | Friday, November 8

### Morning

*Complimentary breakfast is served daily at your B&B.*

### CUBA IN TRANSITION: The Rule of Law as part of Cuban Reforms

Lecture by Rafael M. Hernandez. Rafael is a historian, author, and editor of *Temas*, a Cuban quarterly in the field of social sciences and humanities. *Temas* is considered the leading intellectual publication in Cuba and an important source of independent thought. Rafael has taught as a visiting professor at Harvard, Columbia, the University of Texas, the University of Puerto Rico; CIDE and ITAM in Mexico, and served as visiting scholar at the Wilson Center (Washington, DC) and other US and Latin American academic institutions. Rafael has published widely on Cuban and U.S. policies, inter-American relations, international security, human rights, migration, as well on Cuban culture and civil society.

Depart for a walking tour of Havana Vieja. Please make sure to wear comfortable shoes!

We start at Plaza De Armas, a scenic tree-lined plaza formerly at the center of influence in Cuba. It is surrounded by many of the most historic structures in Havana as well as important monuments.

We continue to Plaza de la Catedral before visiting Plaza Vieja. Learn about the massive historic preservation program which began in this Plaza under the leadership of City Historian, Eusebio Leal.

### Afternoon

Group lunch at the trendy 5 Sentidos in Old Havana.

After lunch, we take a leisurely stroll back towards Central Park via Obispo Street in Havana Vieja, before returning to Vedado.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE CUBAN LEGAL SYSTEM AND PRINCIPLES** with Cuban attorney. This presentation will provide a historical background of the Cuban legal system beginning with its colonial heritage and summarize significant reforms to the Cuban Constitution from 1940 to today. The Cuban Civil Codes, Judiciary, Migration Law and Foreign Investment Acts will also be introduced, highlighting a number of legal curiosities.

After our lecture, private performance with **"Flamenco Spell."**

### Evening

Depart Casas for our group dinner at El Cocinero.

After dinner, suggested visit next-door to the Fabrica de Arte Cubano (FAC). Once an old cooking oil factory, this repurposed complex is without doubt the hippest place in Havana. Part Miami Art Basel, part Williamsburg warehouse party, the FAC is taking the Cuban arts scene by storm hosting viewings, performances and exhibitions of cinema, theatre, dance, music, literature, fashion, architecture, graphic design, photography, and the visual arts.

## DAY 3 | Saturday, November 9

### Morning

### GENDER & SEX EQUALITY IN CUBA

Presentation by **Alberto Roque, MD**. This presentation will cover gender and sexual rights in Cuba with an emphasis on the heavily debated amendments to the Cuban Constitution, civil and family codes which have opened the door for same-sex marriage in Cuba.

### US-CUBA RELATIONS: Legal and Diplomatic Perspectives

Presentation by former diplomat and University of Havana professor, **Camilo Garcia Lopez Trigo**. In addition to his experience at the Ministry of Foreign Relations (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, or MINREX) and foreign diplomatic missions, Camilo has served leadership roles at the Cuban Writers and Artists Union (Union de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba, or UNEAC) and other prominent institutions. Camilo will address the most current status of U.S. -Cuba relations. Tough questions are encouraged for a free and open dialogue.

### Afternoon

### After today's lectures, our group divides into Two (2) Tracks (pre-selected by participants)

#### Option/TRACK 1: ERNEST HEMINGWAY TOUR

**10:30 a.m.** - We travel to the picturesque fishing village of **Cojimar**. Ernest Hemingway loved this little seaside town. He kept his boat, **El Pilar**, in the harbor of Cojimar, and he used this village setting for his story *The Old Man and the Sea*, which won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.

After enjoying a quick cocktail in Cojimar, we continue to Lunch at Paladar Il Divino.

After lunch, we travel to **Finca Vigia**, Ernest Hemingway's home in **San Francisco de Paula**. The home contains original furniture, artwork, personal memorabilia & other objects collected by the author. Of special importance is the author's library containing thousands of irreplaceable letters & telegrams, photographs, scrapbooks, manuscripts, & galley proofs.

Return to Havana. *Remainder of afternoon/evening free.*

#### Option/TRACK 2: FARM VISIT / LAS TERRAZAS

We depart for **Finca Villa Hortensia**, a farm in the Artemisa province (APPROX. 50-minute drive) to learn about sustainable agriculture in Cuba.

After our farm visit, we travel to the pioneering eco-community of **Las Terrazas in Sierra del Rosario**. This biosphere came under UNESCO protection in 1984 due to the success of the reforestation project. It is now home to 117 bird species, including 12 that are endemic. During our visit to Las Terrazas, we see the ruins of a **French Coffee Plantation** built in 1801 by the French who escaped Haiti after the 1791 Haitian revolution.

Lunch at **Cafetal Buenavista** or **El Campesino** at Las Terrazas.

After lunch, we continue for a guided tour of the Village of Las Terrazas including a visit the famous **Cafe Maria** for delightfully rich Cuban coffee. Here you may also have the opportunity to purchase locally grown/roasted Cuban coffee.

Return to Havana. *Remainder of afternoon/evening free.*

### Evening

*Dinner on your own.* Optional evening entertainment: **Tropicana Night Club** or **Havana Queens Show**.

## DAY 4 | Sunday, November 10

### Morning

### ECONOMIC REFORM & THE NEW CUBAN ECONOMY

**Lecture by Juan Triana** of the University of Havana. In his lecture, Mr. Triana will discuss Cuba's recent economic reforms including the evolution of private property rights in Cuba, the relaxation of state intervention and Cuba's integration into the global economy.

**After today's lecture, our group divides into two (2) tracks (pre-selected by participants)**

## DAY 4 | Sunday, November 10 (Cont.)

### Option/Track 1: Cuban Art & Art Studio Tour

Visit the Museum of Cuban Art with art historian. The museum is dedicated exclusively to Cuban Art from the earliest days of colonialism to the latest generation of Cuban artists.

### **Lunch at the nearby Al Carbon by Chefs Ivan & Justo.**

Following our lunch, we continue our Art tour with one additional curated visit to private art studio(s).

*Remainder of afternoon free.*

### Optign/Track 2: 'Under the Hood' Tour of Cuba's Classic Cars

Visit the workshop of a family owned and operated business dedicated to the restoration of 1950's American luxury automobiles. See the workshop, meet the mechanics, check out the vehicles and depart for the next destination in one of these beauties.

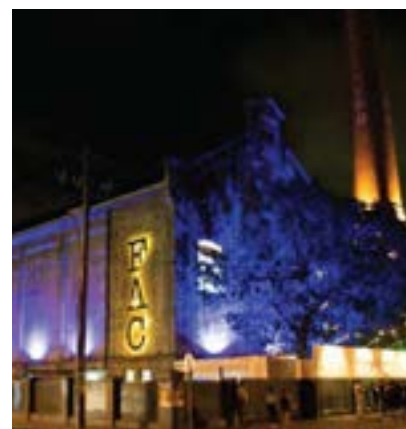
### **Lunch at Costa Vino in the upscale Havana suburb of Miramar.**

After lunch, *remainder of afternoon/evening free.*

### **Farewell Dinner and entertainment at Oscar's.**

## DAY 5 | Monday, November 11 (US Veterans Day)

Airport transfers for departure.



Bed and Breakfasts (or Casas Particulares) are private enterprises in Cuba affording Cuban homeowners and independent workers new employment opportunities, higher wages and incomes, increased Independence from the state, as well as new ways to exchange with foreigners. Not only is staying at a private home the most authentic way to visit Cuba, but your stay directly benefits the Cuban people. You will additionally find the quality of accommodations and services offered by our Cuban hosts are superior to the government run hotels in Cuba. All of our properties are vetted for safety, quality, and high levels of service. All guests at Casas (regardless of category) will have a private bathroom and breakfast served daily by our Cuban hosts. Select from PREMIUM or CLASSIC accommodations.

**PREMIUM Upscale Bed & Breakfast** homes have luxury finishes and exclusive use of the property (Cuban hosts live off-site). Many properties in this category have private outdoor terraces, gardens and/or rooftops. Equivalent to 4+ Star Cuban Hotel or better.



**CLASSIC (Standard) Bed & Breakfast** experience includes exclusive or non-exclusive use of the property (some Cuban host families will reside in the home with you). Classic Casas are equivalent to a 3 star Cuban Hotel or better.



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 Questions | [Catalina@cubaculturatravel.com](mailto:Catalina@cubaculturatravel.com)

**Space is limited!  
 Register now to  
 reserve your spot!**

**REGISTRATION FORM**



**REGISTRATION FORM**



**TOUR COST & CONDITIONS**

**PREMIUM B&B (4-5 Star)**

Double room occupancy (per person): **\$3,800**  
 Single room occupancy: **\$4,200**

**STANDARD B&B (2-3 Star)**

Double room occupancy (per person): **\$3,000**  
 Single room occupancy: **\$3,400**

**INCLUDED**

- 4-night accommodations as selected
- Daily breakfast in Cuba
- Meals as listed in itinerary (including tips)
- Ground transportation throughout the trip equipped with bottled water at all times
- Admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary
- Cuba Cultural Travel Escort and local Cuban tour guide
- Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department
- Cuban Tourist Card

**NOT INCLUDED**

- Roundtrip airfare to/from Cuba and associated fees
- Meals other than listed on itinerary or described as on your own
- Gratuities for guide and driver (recommended amount is \$7-\$10 per person per day for guide, and \$5-\$7 per person per day for driver)
- Individualized expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc)
- Trip cancellation insurance

**PAYMENT DUE DATES**

**\$1000 PER PERSON DEPOSIT DUE AT REGISTRATION**

**FINAL PAYMENT DUE BY: SEPTEMBER 7, 2024**

You may contact Catalina Sykes via email at [Catalina@CubaCulturalTravel.com](mailto:Catalina@CubaCulturalTravel.com) or by phone at (760) 271-0371 Monday thru Friday from 9am to 5pm PST with any questions concerning payment or registration.

**REGISTRATION:** Registration is on a first come, first served basis with limited enrollment. Confirm your participation by completing and returning this form along with your deposit to the address noted below. **Your passport must be valid for 6 months after the dates of travel. If you need to renew your passport, please do so immediately.**

**PROGRAM QUESTIONS:** Please note, the proposed itinerary is subject to change. There may be some changes, additions and/or subtractions to the final itinerary. Be assured any changes made will be done to enhance the total program and promote a smooth operation of the tour. If you have any questions or requests regarding the proposed itinerary or CLE programming, please contact Daniel Perez at [Daniel@CubaCulturalTravel.com](mailto:Daniel@CubaCulturalTravel.com).

**REGULATIONS:** Cuba Cultural Travel is a licensed California Seller of Travel. Under the Seller of Travel Act, 100% of customer funds are deposited into a business client trust account and can only be used to pay for your services. In the event legal travel to Cuba should be suspended due to new rules and regulations, your payments will be returned.

**FLIGHTS:** Please **do not book your flights prior to receiving confirmation** and additional information regarding the trip. CCT will send flight recommendations.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION:** Upon registration, you will receive confirmation along with recommendations for travel insurance, forms to be completed, and our comprehensive travel tips. Approximately two weeks prior to travel you will receive your travel documents, including your Cuban Tourist Card/Visa

*\*\*Cuban born travelers, please contact Cuba Cultural Travel prior to mailing your check and registration form. Fees associated with special visas for Cuban born travelers are not included.*

**A note from Cuba Cultural Travel:** Trips to Cuba require quite a bit of walking on uneven cobblestone streets along with stairs where an elevator is not always available. Participants must be able to walk unassisted. Please keep these physical requirements in mind when making your reservation. If you require mobility assistance, please contact us directly, prior to completing your reservation form, as Cuba is not adequately able to accommodate physically handicapped persons.

If reserving space in a double, please indicate names of both parties sharing room. Please note Cuba Cultural Travel does not pair individuals. Complete one form per room. Must be an active Bar member to register, each member is permitted one guest.

- YES  NO Current member of the New York State Bar Association
- YES  NO Current member of the Trial Lawyers Section
- YES  NO Current member of the TICL Section

I understand that upon review it is determined that you are not a current association or Section member, you will be billed for your membership

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION:**

**COMPLETE ONE FORM PER ROOM**

<b>MEMBER</b>	LAST NAME (AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT)			FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	ANSWER YES OR NO TO BOTH
	STREET ADDRESS			CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
PHONE	CELL/MAIN			OFFICE		
EMAIL**	_____			ALT EMAIL _____		

\*\* ALL INFORMATION, TRAVEL TIPS, FORMS, CONFIRMATIONS, AND INVOICES ARE SENT ELECTRONICALLY.

<b>GUEST</b>	LAST NAME (AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT)			FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	ANSWER YES OR NO TO BOTH
	SAME AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/> (IF NOT: STREET ADDRESS)			CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
PHONE	CELL/MAIN			OFFICE		
EMAIL**	_____			ALT EMAIL _____		

\*\* ALL INFORMATION, TRAVEL TIPS, FORMS, CONFIRMATIONS, AND INVOICES ARE SENT ELECTRONICALLY.

**ACCOMMODATIONS: (PRICE PER PERSON)**

<b>OPTION 1: PREMIUM category B&amp;B</b>	<b>OPTION 2: STANDARD category B&amp;B</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$3,800 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$4,200	<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$3,000 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$3,400

IF RESERVING SPACES IN **DOUBLE OCCUPANCY** PLEASE INDICATE:  1 LARGE BED OR  2 TWIN BEDS

**Total amount of check \$\_\_\_\_\_.** Enclose your check payable to **Cuba Cultural Travel for the amount of \$1000 per person** to reserve your space. **Deposit due no later than JULY 7, 2024.**

Upon receipt of your payment, a letter of confirmation will be sent to you electronically along with travel insurance recommendations. Additional information on booking flights and completion of travel form will be sent when registration closes. Travel forms and final invoice will be sent approx. Three weeks before the due date. **Full payment is due by SEPTEMBER 7, 2024**

**PAYMENT:**

- Payments are nontransferable and nonrefundable after the dates noted in the cancellation policy
- Due to OFAC regulations, payment must be made via personal or business check; or cashier's check issued from a US bank/account
- Payments not honored by the bank are subject to a \$25 returned payment charge
- **CREDIT CARDS, BANK CHECKS ISSUED ONLINE, AND/OR WIRE TRANSFERS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED**

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

- Group Cancellation: if the trip is cancelled by the tour operator due to Cuba regulations changes, participants will receive a full refund of funds paid.
- Individual cancellations made from July 7 to September 7, 2024 will forfeit \$1,000.
- Cancellations after September 7, 2024 will forfeit entire cost of trip
- All cancellations must be made in writing via email to Catalina Sykes at [Catalina@CubaCulturalTravel.com](mailto:Catalina@CubaCulturalTravel.com)

**By signing below, I hereby agree to the aforementioned cancellation policy and tour cost and conditions.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

We strongly recommend you purchase Trip Cancellation Insurance to cover unforeseen circumstances requiring cancellation of your travel. Information on acquiring trip insurance will be sent to you with your letter of confirmation. You will have two weeks from the date of confirmation to apply for insurance for coverage of pre-existing conditions.

**Please return this form along with your check made payable to CUBA CULTURAL TRAVEL to: 1535 ZUTANO LN. FALLBROOK, CA 92028**



# Champagne Celebration in Honor of Justice Elizabeth Garry

Wednesday, May 29, 2024  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Hodgson Russ - Albany  
Informational Program



The *Trial Lawyers Section Digest* features peer-written substantive articles and case summaries relating to the practice of trial law. Edited by CaraMia Hart, Esq., with the help of William S. Friedlander, Esq., the *Trial Lawyers Section Digest* is published by the Trial Lawyers Section and distributed to Section Members free of charge.

The Digest is published as a benefit for members of the Trial Lawyers Section and is copyrighted by the New York State Bar Association.



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LATEST ISSUE:



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The 5th Annual Justice  
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
Vanguard Award

**Nomination Deadline: August 30, 2024**

Date Presented: October 9, 2024  
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Virtual



VIEW THE  
LATEST ISSUE:



The *Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section (TICL) Journal* features peer-written substantive articles relating to the practice of torts, insurance and compensation law on various topics including workers' compensation, medical malpractice, products liability, depositions and trial preparation. Edited by David A. Glazer, Esq., the *TICL Journal* is published by the Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section and distributed to Section Members free of charge. The *TICL Journal* is published as a benefit for members of the Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section and is copyrighted by the New York State Bar Association.

The Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section (TICL) Journal encourages article submissions on topics of interest to members of the Section. Writing an article for a NYSBA Section publication is a great way to get your name out in the legal community and advertise your knowledge. Our authors are respected state-wide for their legal expertise in such areas as workers' compensation, medical malpractice, products liability, depositions, and trial preparation.



NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
**TORTS, INSURANCE & COMPENSATION LAW SECTION**  
**TRIAL LAWYERS SECTION**

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