



Trial Lawyers & Torts, Insurance
& Compensation Law Sections

New York State Bar Association

Journey to Cuba

A Delegation in Support
of the Cuban People

Thursday, March 20 - Monday, March 24, 2024
The Grand Aston La Habana Hotel
Havana, Cuba

5.5 MCLE Credits | Areas of Professional Practice

**Registration is open to all members of the
New York State Bar Association and their Guests.**

At a Glance: Cuba

Included

- The Grand Aston La Habana
Note: US Citizens are authorized to stay at this hotel
- 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! Registration is open to all New York State Bar Association members and their guests. If you are not a current member of the Trial Lawyers or the TICL Section, registering for this program will include a complimentary one-year membership with both Sections.

DAY 1

Thursday, March 20

HAVANA



DAY 2

Friday, March 21

HAVANA VIEJA



DAY 3

Saturday, March 22

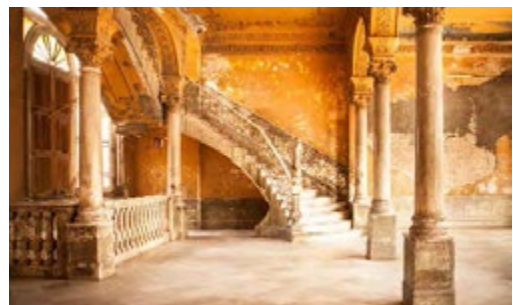
COJIMAR/ARTEMSIA



DAY 4

Sunday, March 23

HAVANA & MIRAMAR



DAY 5

Monday, March 24

DEPARTURE DAY



DAY 1 | Thursday, March 20

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 LaForesta in the upscale neighborhood of Siboney

Afternoon

Check in to the Grand Aston La Habana, ideally situated in bustling Vedado, the Capitals central business district.

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, March 21

Morning Session: Time to be announced

Cuba in Transition: The Rule of Law as Part of Cuban Reforms

This lecture is being presented by Rafael M. Hernandez, a distinguished historian, author, and editor of *Temas*, a Cuban quarterly focusing on 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 IUTAM 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.

Rafael Hernández, Chief Editor, *Temas*

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

Offsite Tour: Time to be announced

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

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.

Lunch: Time to be announced

The group lunch will be at the trendy **5 Sentidos** in Old Havana.

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

Afternoon Session | Time To be announced

Introduction to the Cuban Legal System and Principals

This presentation offers a historical background of the Cuban legal system beginning with its colonial heritage and summarizes 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.

Presenter: To be announced

1.5 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

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

Dinner on your own

Dinner Suggestion

After dinner, we suggest visiting next-door to the Fabrica de Arte Cubano (FAC). Once an old cooking oil factory, this repurposed complex is without a 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, theater, dance, music, literature, fashion, architecture, graphic design, photography, and the visual arts.

DAY 3 | Saturday, March 22

Morning Session: Time to be announced

Gender & Sex Relations in Cuba: Legal Perspectives

This presentation by **Alberto Roque, MD** 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.

Presenter: Alberto Roque, MD, Doctor of Internal Medicine
University of Medical Sciences of Havana

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

Time to be announced

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.

Presenter: Profesor Camilo Garcia Lopez Trigo

1.0 MCLE Credit in Areas of Professional Practice

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

Option/TRACK 1: ERNEST HEMINGWAY TOUR

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

Enjoy dinner on your own

Suggested optional entertainment: Tropicana Night Club or Havana Queens Show.

DAY 4 | Sunday, March 23

Morning Session: Time to be announced Economic Reform & The New Cuban Economy

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

Presenter: Juan Triana, Professor, University of Havana

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

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

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.

Option/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.

Time To Be Announced

Farewell Dinner and entertainment at Oscar's.

DAY 5 | Monday, March 24

Airport transfers for departure.



GRAND ASTON LA HABANA



Program attendees will be staying at the Grand Aston La Habana Hotel, located at:

Calle 1ay D, Vedado
10400 Habana, Cuba
astonhotelsinternational.com

You can select one of two options for your accommodations:

Option 1: Standard/Deluxe Room (city view)
Double Room: \$3800 | Single Room \$4200

Option 2: Ocean View Club Room Upgrade (sea view/high floor)
Double Room: \$500 | Single Room: \$250

The Grand Aston La Habana Hotel is a haven of chic and contemporary sophistication, and boasts a privileged location on Primera and D streets, right in front of Havana's Malecón. Its elegant and modern design, emulating the new Caribbean urban lifestyle, perfectly incorporates the green space of its lush gardens in an urban resort.

The sophisticated and modern lifestyle at the highest level of the **Hotel Grand Aston La Habana** reveals a unique design architecture, with 600 elegant and bright rooms and suites that pay homage to the rich history of El Vedado, and an eclectic dining offering where the crown jewel is the Havana 92, located on the 25th floor, where one can enjoy beautiful sunsets. Its inspiring event spaces, dubbed Java, Sumatra, and Bali, as well as an infinity pool overlooking the shimmering waters of iconic Havana Bay. If rejuvenation and relaxation is what you seek, then there is the Ubud Spa, the first Bali-style salon in Cuba.

Staying at the **Hotel Grand Aston La Habana** is waking up to a privileged sunrise with views of one of the most spectacular and famous bays in the world. This urban oasis is ideally located in the commercial area of Vedado, the capital's central business district, close to offices, shops, restaurants and entertainment.



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



TOUR COST & CONDITIONS

GRAND ASTON LA HABANA HOTEL (4-5 Star) Standard room
Double occupancy Deluxe (City view) **\$3,800** per person
Single occupancy Deluxe (City view) **\$4,200**

UPGRADE TO OCEAN VIEW CLUB ROOMS:
Total supplement per person for 4 nights: **\$250**
(Higher floor rooms with Sea view)

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: January 20, 2025

You may contact Catalina Sykes via email at 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.

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.

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
A Delegation in Support for the Cuban People
JOURNEY TO HAVANA, March 20-24, 2025

REGISTRATION FORM



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

MEMBER		U.S. CITIZEN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
		CUBAN BORN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
	LAST NAME (AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT) _____ FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE _____	ANSWER YES OR NO TO <u>BOTH</u>	
ADDRESS	STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____		
PHONE	CELL/MAIN _____ OFFICE _____		
EMAIL**	_____ ALT EMAIL _____		
** ALL INFORMATION, TRAVEL TIPS, FORMS, CONFIRMATIONS, AND INVOICES ARE SENT ELECTRONICALLY.			

GUEST		U.S. CITIZEN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
		CUBAN BORN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
	LAST NAME (AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT) _____ FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE _____	ANSWER YES OR NO TO <u>BOTH</u>	
ADDRESS	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)

SUPPLEMENT TOTAL FOR 4 NIGHTS (NOT PER PERSON):

OPTION 1: Standard/Deluxe Room (City view)	OPTION 2: Upgrade to Ocean View Club Rooms (Sea view/High Floors)
<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$3,800 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$4,200	<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$250

IF RESERVING SPACES IN **DOUBLE OCCUPANCY** PLEASE INDICATE: 1 LARGE KING 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 at registration.**

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 January 20, 2025**

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 December 20, 2024 - January 19, 2025 will forfeit \$1000 per person.**
- Cancellations after January 20, 2025 will forfeit entire cost of trip
- All cancellations must be made in writing via email to Catalina Sykes at 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



Trial Lawyers Section

Learn more about NYSBA's Trial Lawyers Section!

GET INVOLVED!

There are many ways to get involved with the Trial Lawyers Section, and we welcome fresh ideas!

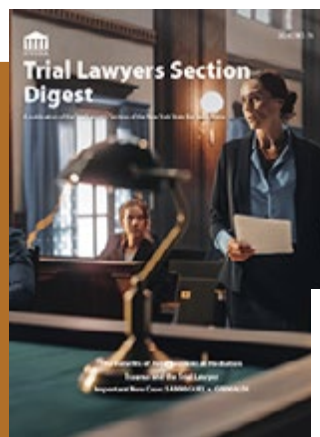
- Serve on a committee or task force dedicated to specific areas of interest within trial law, such as civil procedure, evidence, or trial advocacy.
- Volunteer for leadership positions within the section, such as serving as a committee chair or vice-chair.
- Contribute an article to the Trial Lawyers Digest. Learn more below!
- Organize Section meetings, seminars, and conferences to network with colleagues, exchange ideas, and stay informed about current issues and developments in trial law.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Annual destination meetings with CLE opportunities and networking events.
- Regional networking receptions and programs held throughout the year to recognize distinguished members of the bench and bar.
- CLE Events providing insights from experienced professionals.
- Social events and gatherings to foster camaraderie and strengthen relationships within the legal community.

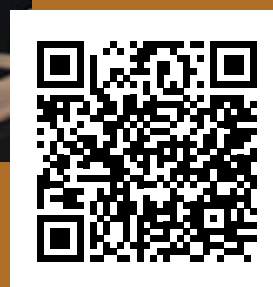
OTHER HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TRIAL LAWYERS SECTION:

- Continuing legal education opportunities covering a wide range of topics relevant to trial practice, including litigation strategies, courtroom technology, and ethics.
- Access to online discussion forums and communities where members can exchange ideas, seek advice, and share experiences with peers.
- Discounts on professional development programs, conferences, and publications offered by the section and affiliated organizations.
- Networking opportunities with judges, expert witnesses, and other key stakeholders in the legal community.



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.



VIEW THE LATEST ISSUE:



Learn more about NYSBA's Torts Insurance and Compensation Law Section!

Joining the Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law (TICL) Section of the New York State Bar Association offers a plethora of benefits for legal professionals. Membership grants access to a wealth of resources including our journals, comprehensive MCLE programs, and exclusive networking events with prominent members of the bench and bar. With over 15 committees covering various substantive areas of law and two Divisions, TICL provides ample opportunities for members to engage in specialized discussions and contribute to the advancement of legal knowledge. What's more, joining these committees and divisions is free and entails no mandatory time commitments, fostering an environment where active participation is encouraged but flexible. Embrace the chance to expand your professional horizons and make meaningful connections by becoming a part of the Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law Section today.

More Reasons to Join the TICL Section

- Networking Events and Receptions
- Annual Destination Meeting and NYSBA Annual Meeting
- Publications
- Live Events and CLE Programming
- Awards
- Community Engagement
- Career Development
- Advocacy and Influence



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.



VIEW THE LATEST ISSUE:





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

One Elk Street
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