CUBAN DISCOVERY
A PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE

Organized & Operated by: Go Next, Inc. is licensed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to conduct People-to-People Educational Exchanges in Cuba

Developed for: Hamilton
With featured faculty member Professor Carl A. Rubino

MARCH 14–22, 2015
ONLY 25 SPACES AVAILABLE!
DEAR ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS,

Cuba: Historically rich, culturally diverse, environmentally magnificent. For decades, the Caribbean’s largest island—roughly 90 miles away from U.S. soil—has been but a mystery, perceived through secondhand sources and beyond the grasp of most American travelers.

Now that People-to-People exchanges are possible, we invite you to embark on a captivating journey that reveals Cuba’s complex history and culture. This trip is specially designed to broaden your understanding of this nation of stark contradictions molded by a turbulent past. Time seems to stand still as you watch vintage 1950s-era automobiles roll along cobbled streets past beautifully preserved Spanish colonial buildings. As the hub for economic and political heritage, Havana presents an ideal setting to interact with local citizens and uncover new perspectives. You will gain insight into the country’s thriving arts community through discussions with independent artists and visits to performing arts schools and studios. You’ll also journey beyond the spirited capital to fertile tobacco and sugar cane fields that permeate the countryside, revealing a glimpse into rural Cuban life. Along the southern coastline, you’ll visit the beautifully preserved colonial cities of Trinidad and Cienfuegos—both UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

This exclusive opportunity to explore Cuba is organized and operated by Go Next, Inc., which holds a People-to-People license from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), authorizing registered travelers on this educational exchange program to visit Cuba. Go Next invites you to personally experience the people, culture, landscape, and architecture of this distinct Caribbean nation on a week-long journey developed for alumni and parents of Hamilton College and those of our travel partner, Connecticut College.

With an intimate group of just 25 travelers, you will share enriching activities that illuminate the realities of Cuban citizens, providing an ideal gateway into their daily lives. Through informative and educational People-to-People exchanges, you will uncover Cuba’s lush beauty, paradoxes and remarkable intrigue on this unforgettable adventure. Don’t miss this unique opportunity to unravel the mysteries of a fascinating country through its most candid, inspiring source—its people.

Sincerely,

Carl A. Rubino, Winslow Professor of Classics, Claudette A. Ferrone ’88
Director, Hamilton College    Associate Director, Alumni Relations
Imagining America Initiative   Director, Hamilton Travel Program

Our featured faculty member, Carl A. Rubino, is Winslow Professor of Classics at Hamilton College. A long-time devotee of Cuban history and culture, he has visited the island five times to speak and give workshops on the problem of time and the impact of the theory of evolution upon ethics. He is Vice President of a non-profit association supporting research in Cuba which funds workshops there, sponsors visits to the US by Cuban scholars, and purchases scholarly and scientific books for use in Cuba.

Professor Rubino has published and lectured extensively on classics, comparative literature, literary theory, and issues in science and the humanities. His work in Cuba has led to a number of publications, including a coedited book, Emergence, Complexity, and Self-Organization: Precursors and Prototypes (2008, paperback 2010), and “The Consolations of Uncertainty: Time, Change, and Complexity,” a chapter in Reframing Complexity: Perspectives from the North and South (2007).

SPACE IS LIMITED TO 25 PARTICIPANTS
For information and to register, call GO NEXT at 800.842.9023
TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter.

OPERATOR/PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

Go Next, Inc. (hereinafter GN), located at 8000 West 78th Street, Suite 345, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55439-2538, in return for full payment by you of the price of the trip your departure, GN has the right to refuse you boarding. GN CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR DAMAGED LUGGAGE. YOU SHOULD GIVE IMMEDIATE NOTICE OF ANY LOST OR DAMAGED LUGGAGE TO THE INVOLVED AIR CARRIER, HOTEL, AND TO YOUR OWN INSURANCE COMPANY.

HCAA Responsibility Clause

The participation of HCAA is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). GN acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services, relating to The Program. GN, HCAA, and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error, omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other conveyance, or through the default of any hotel, ground operator, or other person not its direct employee or not under its exclusive control supplying any services or providing any goods offered or canceled after ticketing. Travel participants who choose to make their own domestic airline reservations independent of Go Next, will be wholly or canceled after ticketing. Travel participants who choose to make their own domestic airline reservations independent of Go Next, will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of personal injury, property damage or any other loss, claim or damage related to or arising out of, in whole or in part, the acts or omissions of any direct air carrier, hotel, ground operator, or other person not its direct employee or not under its exclusive control supplying any services or providing any goods offered or canceled after ticketing. GN is responsible for arranging all included transportation, accommodations and other services. However, in the event of unforeseen circumstances that could disrupt your trip. See panel above.

The price is based on tariffs in effect for estimated 2015 prices as of January 01, 2014. Airfares are capacity controlled and may have unforeseen circumstances that could disrupt your trip. See panel above.

The following charges will be assessed for cancellations.

If you cancel or change plans more than 100 days in advance of initial flight departure, $250 per person; 100-46 days before departure, $1,000 per person; 45 days or fewer before departure, full cancellation fees: Cancellations received 101 days or more before initial flight departure, $250 per person; 100-46 days before departure, $1,000 per person; 45 days or fewer before departure, full cancellation fees.

Any action or suit against GN must be commenced within 1 (one) year after scheduled termination of the trip or be forever barred. The rights and remedies relating to cancellations made available under this agreement are in addition to any other rights or remedies available under applicable law. However, we offer any refunds under this agreement with the following limitations: Any refund will be made regardless of reason: the refund will be made in accordance with the following schedule. Any refunded money will be returned within 14 days after the cancellation.

Any action or suit against GN must be commenced within 1 (one) year after scheduled termination of the trip or be forever barred. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are

The air carrier reserves the right to substitute equipment but is not obliged to do so. GN reserves the right to substitute air carriers but is not obliged to do so. GN CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS.

The following service fees will apply in addition to any applicable airline cancellation fees: Cancellations received 101 days or more before initial flight departure, $250 per person; 100-46 days before departure, $1,000 per person; 45 days or fewer before departure, full cancellation fees.

For unforeseen circumstances that could disrupt your trip. See panel above.

If you cancel or change plans more than 100 days in advance of initial flight departure, $250 per person; 100-46 days before departure, $1,000 per person; 45 days or fewer before departure, full cancellation fees.

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RESERVE YOUR CUBAN DISCOVERY TRIP TODAY!

CUBAN DISCOVERY $5,399 per person, double occupancy; Single occupancy, add $900

Hotel bed request:
Check one: Twin (2 beds) Double Accommodation requests are subject to hotel availability.

You may contact Go Next to arrange domestic Miami flights (a $35 administrative fee per reservation will apply). All passengers must travel with a passport valid at least 6 months beyond their return date.

GUEST 1: Full Name (as it appears on your passport)

Title First Middle Last
Preferred name on name badge
Alternate Phone
Main Phone
Email Address

Mailing Address

City State ZIP Birth Date / / Country of Birth Citizenship
Passport Number
Place of Passport Issuance
Passport Issue Date / / Passport Exp. Date / / Mother’s maiden name
Emergency Contact Relationship Phone

GUEST 2: Full Name (as it appears on your passport)

Title First Middle Last
Preferred name on name badge
Alternate Phone
Main Phone
Email Address

Mailing Address

City State ZIP Birth Date / / Country of Birth Citizenship
Passport Number
Place of Passport Issuance
Passport Issue Date / / Passport Exp. Date / / Mother’s maiden name
Emergency Contact Relationship Phone

SIGNATURES REQUIRED BY EACH PERSON TRAVELING INCLUDING PARENT/GUARDIAN FOR MINOR CHILDREN: I/We have read, received a copy of, understand, and accept the terms and conditions stated in the Operator/Participant Agreement. By signing this, I/we also agree to participate in all scheduled educational exchange activities approved by OFAC and I/we understand that there is no deviating from the daily schedule.

SIGN HERE X

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT: A deposit of $850 per person is due with your reservation application. Make checks payable to Go Next. Full payment is required by December 4, 2014. Reservations received after this date must be accompanied with full payment.

Please reserve ______ space(s). Enclosed is my/our deposit for $ ______. Deposits may be made by credit card; however, all FINAL payments are required to be made by check or cash.

I/We authorize Go Next, Inc. to charge my/our deposit for $ ______ to: □ Visa □ MasterCard
Name (as it appears on your credit card) ____________________________

SIGN HERE X □ Billing address same as above

Billing Address
(if different from above)

Card Number ____________________________ Security Code ____________ Exp. Date ______

Making a deposit or acceptance or use of any vouchers, tickets, goods, or services shall be deemed consent to and acceptance of the terms and conditions stated in the applicable Operator/Participant Agreement, including limitations on responsibility and liability.
WHAT IS A PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE?

A People-to-People educational exchange allows U.S. citizens the opportunity to visit Cuba in order to engage with its citizens and share diverse, cultural experiences. Through a special license issued to Go Next, Inc. by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, you can experience this enthralling island first-hand and immerse yourself in a powerful cultural exchange. This unique travel initiative redefines the scope of a typical vacation by bringing meaningful interactions with local people to the forefront. Open the door to this multifaceted, isolated nation and strengthen your global awareness on this extraordinary journey.

The People-to-People license dictates that all participants follow a full-time comprehensive schedule focusing on educational opportunities and genuine cross-cultural connections, so no time is available for independent excursions.
HAVANA

• Take a walking tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, filled with timeless Spanish colonial buildings, churches and palm-fringed plazas.
• Connect with faculty at the University of Havana*, Cuba’s oldest university and one of the first established in the Americas, and discuss the Cuban higher-education system.
• Tour the former residence of the Governors of Havana (Palacio de los Capitanes Generales), a Cuban Baroque mansion and museum which showcases colonial-era art and artifacts.
• Gain insight into Cuba’s film industry and culture at the Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Art and Industry, created in 1959 to improve the quality of Cuban films—focusing on education and artistic expression.
• Visit the District of Alamar, a 1970s social housing project of Soviet-style concrete apartments—that today is home to thousands of Cubans.
  – Chat with locals about organic farming at Organopónico Vivero Alamar, one of Havana’s largest and most successful cooperative urban gardens.
• See how art can transform a neighborhood at Muraleando, a vibrant community outreach project founded by local residents.
• Travel south of Havana to Las Terrazas, a self-sustaining community and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, surrounded by lush, forested hills.
  – Get a rare glimpse into rural Cuba’s medical services at a local clinic.
  – Sample coffee at Café María, where the owner and her family welcome visitors and explain the role of coffee in Cuba’s culture.
  – Learn about independent artist Lester Campa’s unique paper recycling process at his private studio.
• Visit the home of renowned ceramicist and painter, José Rodríguez Fuster, known as the “Picasso of the Caribbean.” See how his creative vision has transformed the local neighborhood into a colorful, artistic landscape.
• Interact with children at a primary school* and engage with administrators and teachers to discuss the challenges and opportunities of Cuba’s educational system.
• See the fishing village of Cojimar, the setting for Ernest Hemingway’s book *The Old Man and the Sea*, and visit Finca Vigía, the mansion where he lived from 1939-1960.
• Meet with independent Cuban booksellers at a used book market and learn about the culture and impact of literature on society.
• At dinners held in privately-owned restaurants or private homes known as *paladares*, hear first-hand from the owners about the entrepreneurial climate in Cuba.
CIENFUEGOS
- Admire the colonial architecture of Cienfuegos, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the “Pearl of the South,” and see the Punta Gorda Peninsula.
- Meet with a local choir or visit an art school and discuss the role of art and music in Cuban society.

TRINIDAD
- Take in the charms of Trinidad, a Spanish colonial town and UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Learn about traditional ceramic techniques at the Casa del Alfarero, a pottery house founded and operated by the Santander family for generations.
- Visit the beautifully restored 18th-century Hacienda de Manaca Iznaga, located in the Valley de los Ingenios, once a center for sugar production, and see its exhibition of plantation life in the days of slavery.
- Tour a bed and breakfast where you will learn about this new entrepreneurial opportunity for Cubans, a business typically operated by the state.
- Join a Santeria practitioner at the Templo de Yemaya, and delve into the history and basic principles of this Afro-Cuban religion.
- Enjoy dinner in a private home (paladar), where you can meet with a multigenerational family and experience a bit of local daily life.

SANCTI SPIRITUS
- See the picturesque town of Sancti Spiritus, home to Cuba’s oldest church and one of the original seven Cuban cities founded by the Spanish.
- Visit a ration store where the store manager will explain rationing, the two currency system and the difference between Ration Stores, Cuban Peso Stores and CUC stores.
- Witness how a variety of produce, meat and local products are displayed and sold with visits to an outdoor food market and industrial goods market.

SANTA CLARA
- Enjoy dance, theater and music performances by the students at the Santa Clara Music and Performing Arts School, and hear how the performing arts have influenced Cuban life.
- Stop at the Museum and Mausoleum of Che Guevara (time permitting).

The features listed above are samples of the activities you may participate in. You will receive a detailed daily itinerary approximately 14 days prior to departure. While unlikely, slight changes to the itinerary and accommodations may occur due to Cuban Government directives. *In the event a school or other venue is closed, an alternate People-to-People exchange will be scheduled.

PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION. This program involves motor coach and walking tours with more than a moderate amount of walking on cobblestone streets, stairs and uneven ground. The daily tours can include up to approximately 2 hours at a time of moderate to strenuous walking, primarily over natural and uneven surfaces. There are numerous steps and inclines to negotiate.
MIAMI INCLUDED FEATURES:
• 1 night at the Crowne Plaza Miami International Airport hotel or similar accommodations
• Pre-travel meeting at group hotel
• Exclusive local representative

CUBA INCLUDED FEATURES:
• Round-trip chartered jet service between Miami and Havana
• 7 nights’ accommodations: 5 nights in Havana, 2 nights in Sancti Spiritus
• 20 meals: 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 6 dinners, including a welcome and farewell dinner in Havana (one local beverage is included with each meal)
• Transportation via private, A/C vehicles with 2 bottles of water per person, per day
• Full schedule of educational activities that result in meaningful interaction with the locals
• Informative program of cultural and educational exchanges
• All entrance fees to included tour sites
• Private English speaking national guide
• Exclusive Go Next program manager
• Gratuities for restaurant staff, local guides and drivers, and luggage handling
• Cuban travel insurance covering medical repatriation expenses only, as required by the Cuban Government, valid only during your stay in Cuba

NOT INCLUDED:
Airfare between home and Miami, passport fees, Cuban visa fee of approximately $75, Cuban departure tax, beverages other than those included with meals as indicated, personal expenses, optional travel insurance, baggage fees, and other items not specifically mentioned as included.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

$5,399 PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
MELIÁ COHIBA—Havana
Located in Havana’s colorful Vedado neighborhood, and only a short drive to the historic heart of Old Havana is the modern, high-rise hotel, Meliá Cohiba. Stroll the nearby Malecón, the famed seawall stretching along Havana’s waterfront, walk to the Plaza de la Revolución, or enjoy this hotel’s multitude of fine amenities and facilities including an outdoor pool, whirlpool, solarium, gym, beauty parlor, gift shops and a variety of restaurants and bars. Each comfortable guest room features satellite TV, Internet access and air conditioning, as well as a minibar, hair dryer, safe, and an iron and ironing board.

HOTEL PLAZA—Sancti Spiritus
Standing in the old quarter of Sancti Spiritus, near the 16th-century Parroquial Mayor—one of Cuba’s oldest churches—is Hotel Plaza, offering a memorable and authentic Cuban hotel experience. Originally built in the 19th century as a family mansion, this quaint hotel has been completely renovated to reflect its former colonial style. Take in views of the main square from its rooftop terrace, or enjoy its amenities, including a bar and restaurant. Each uniquely decorated guest room comes equipped with satellite TV, air conditioning and an in-room safe.