

Santiago de Cuba Dance Educators Trip

June 2020

Proposed Programme

Santiago de Cuba is the ideal place to be immersed in Cuban dance as it has a wide range of live music venues, from the world famous Casa de la Trova in the city centre to small local clubs. This trip will provide an opportunity to meet local professional dancers, dance educators and the Cuban Ministry of Culture and to be immersed in the rich culture of this city. You will have small group dance workshops with one of Cuba's most famous national dance and music companies, Ballet Folklórico Cutumba, accompanied nights out to hear world class live music and visits to the Santiago Arts College and local dance companies to learn firsthand about dance education in Cuba. There will also be time to recharge your batteries in a relaxed and tropical Caribbean atmosphere.

You can expect an intensive hands-on cultural experience, with plenty of dancing, live music and local colour.

Accommodation is arranged in carefully selected homestays which will provide you with a real insight into Cuban life, excellent home cooked meals and a home away from home.

Proposed Programme

Day 1	Arrive Santiago de Cuba Arrive Santiago de Cuba airport, private group transfer from airport to accommodation. Dinner at homestay accommodation and rest of evening free
Day 2	
Morning	Briefing meeting, introduction to Cutumba dance company and dance classes 09.30-11.30 followed by light lunch
Afternoon	Short orientation walk around the historic centre followed by city tour by coach to visit places associated with the Cuban Revolution
Evening	Dinner at homestay. Welcome cocktail in local venue and night out to live music
Day 3	
Morning	Dance classes 09.30-11.30 followed by light lunch
Afternoon	Visit EVA (Escuela Vocacional de Arte), the main arts college in Santiago for a tour of the facilities, short performances by dance students and an opportunity to discuss arts education with the director/tutors
Evening	Dinner at homestay. Night out to local venue
Day 4	
Morning	Dance classes 09.30-11.30 followed by light lunch
Afternoon	Visit a community dance group, with short performances by dance students and an opportunity to discuss grass roots dance training in Santiago de Cuba
Evening	Dinner at homestay. Night out to local venue
Day 5	
Morning	Dance classes 09.30-11.30 followed by light lunch
Afternoon	Visit one of the top contemporary dance companies in the city - discussion with the company director afterwards
Evening	Dinner at homestay. Night out to local community cultural activity

Day 6

Morning

Dance classes 09.30-11.30 followed by light lunch

Afternoon

Visit one of the top Afro-Cuban dance companies in the city - discussion with the company director afterwards and also a representative of the Cuban Ministry of Culture

Evening

Dinner at homestay. Night out to local venue

Day 7

Full day guided excursion out of the city to the foothills of the Sierra Maestra mountains with transport and lunch included. Return to Santiago late afternoon. Group debriefing with key local contacts followed by dinner at local restaurant and final cultural activity.

Day 8

Depart Santiago de Cuba

Check out of accommodation and transfer to Santiago airport for return flight

This trip includes:

- **Homestay** accommodation: single room, half board (breakfast & dinner) x 7 nights
- **Lunch** x 6 days in local restaurants
- **Dance lessons:** 10 group Cuban dance lessons with professional Cuban tutors, 2 lessons x 5 days
- **Afternoon sessions:** accompanied visits to 2 local dance professional dance companies + 1 community dance group + Escuela Vocacional de Arte (EVA)
- **Excursions:** 1 full day and 1 half day excursions including transport, entries and English speaking guide
- **Accompanied nights out/Cultural activities** x 6
- **Caledonia tour leader and local guide(s)**
- **Airport transfers** on arrival/departure Santiago de Cuba airport

Not included: Flights; Cuban travel visa; travel insurance; any drinks with meals or on nights out; tips

Cost: US\$1,815 per person for a minimum of 10 persons

