



Mission: Cuba



MINISTRY & SERVICE

- Concerts with the **Cuba National Choir or Exaudi (both world renowned choirs)!**
- **Ministry concerts** in local churches designed for direct evangelism.
- **One-on-one interaction** with Cuban musicians to understand what it is like being a musician in Cuba.
- Bringing down music and music supplies. This **single act of service** is invaluable to building personal, long-lasting relationships. There are NO music stores in Cuba where these items can be purchased!

CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- A study of the **music of Cuba** and how the rhythmic styles of this tiny island nation have influenced the world.
- An **intense study** of the cultural aspect of the **Spanish/African heritage** that made Cuba the gateway of the Caribbean and Central America.
- **Meeting and mixing** with one of the most diverse cultural/ethnic communities south of the US.

LONG-TERM MINISTRY IMPACT

- Build **personal, long-lasting relationships** with Cuban musicians sharing Christ in unique and meaningful ways!
- **Furthering the goals** of the local church and its outreach to the Cuban people.

2090 BAKER ROAD ♦ SUITE 304-104 ♦ KENNESAW, GEORGIA 30144

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LENGTH OF PROJECT

7 Days

LOCATION

Havana, Cuba

SAFETY LEVEL

High. Tourism is the #1 import of the island nation and they place great importance on the safety of each foreign national. While in Cuba, we will be the official guests of the Cuba National Concert Band and given great status. According to international sources, Cuba has one of the lowest crime rates in the world. In 12 trips to the island personally, safety and security has never been a problem.

MINISTRY/SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

- Concerts with the Cuba National Concert Band or Exaudi
- Ministry concerts at local churches
- Workshops with Cuban musicians.
- One-on-one time with Cuban musicians.
- Bringing down instrument/ensemble support items such as valve oil, mouthpieces, instruments, reeds, and music. This single act of service is invaluable to building personal, long-lasting relationships. There are NO music stores in Cuba where these items can be purchased!

WHAT WILL EACH PARTICIPANT COME AWAY WITH?

- A real one-to-one connection with other singers through direct interaction with the Cuba National Concert Band or Exaudi.
- A greater appreciation for what it is like to live perform as a musician in a third-world country.
- An intense study of the cultural aspect of the Spanish/African heritage that made Cuba the gateway of the Caribbean and Central America.
- A study of the spread of Christianity in Cuba and of the three major religions: Christianity, Catholicism and Santeria.
- A study of the music of Cuba and how the rhythmic styles of this tiny island nation have influenced the world.
- Meeting and mixing with one of the most diverse cultural/ethnic communities south of the United States. These include: Castellan Spanish, Indigenous Island Indians, Africans from East Africa, Eastern European Jews, Greek Orthodox, South American, Russian and Chinese...just to name a few.
- Understanding the socio/economic struggles of the Batista regime prior to Fidel Castro and what events lead up to the famed revolution of 1959.

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- Understanding the social and cultural temperature of the average Cuban at the time of the revolution and how that had a dramatic impact on the success of the revolution.
- Understanding the history of the United States' response to Fidel Castro's revolution.

WHAT WILL WE SEE AND HEAR?

- NO McDonald and NO Starbucks.
- A 100+-year-old manuscript, Spanish Concert Band library...perhaps the greatest unpublished treasure trove of band music in the world.
- Hear some of the greatest Cuban musicians of both traditional and popular music influenced by generations of Cuban rhythm including: Salsa, Mambo, Son, Rumba, and Danzon.
- See the Capitol, the Malacon, Castillo el Morro, Plaza of the Revolution, the famed "Old Havana."
- Some of the most beautiful beaches in the Caribbean!



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q I thought as Americans that we could not travel to Cuba.

A There are special qualifications with educational and cultural groups that allow FULL AND LEGAL travel to Cuba through the Department of Treasury of the United States. In addition, Harmony International has entered into a unique partnership with the Institute of Cuban Music, the leading Cuban authority of US cultural travel to Cuba.

Q Will there be a guide with us during the entire trip?

A Yes! Not only will there be a professional Cuban guide with the group, Brad Matheson, President of Harmony International, will accompany the tour every step of the way.

Q What does the tour cost cover?

A Everything except a few meals that will be on your own. It includes complete airfare, accommodations, transportation, most meals, cultural/education opportunities and sightseeing.

Q Will I be able to make payments using a Credit Card?

A Yes. We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.

Q I don't have a passport. How do I go about getting one?

A Obtain an application at your nearest passport office, courthouse, or post office. You will need a certified birth certificate (with raised seal and file number), and 2 duplicate non-glossy photographs measuring 2" x 2", taken within six months of application. For more info regarding passports, you can go online to: www.travel.state.gov.

Q Will I need a visa for travel to Cuba?

A Yes. Harmony International will work with each individual to manage and obtain each visa.

Q What airline will be used and where will we fly?

A There are currently two ways to travel to Cuba. One is through a US Department of Treasury approved charter flight from Miami to Havana. The other is through scheduled regular service from Atlanta to Cancun to Havana.

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WHAT'S INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR?

1. **RT Airline transportation from Miami International Airport** provided by scheduled air carrier, including all services such as luggage handling, meal/beverage catering, and in-flight entertainment.
2. **Transportation** by motor coach or other transportation as listed in the itinerary.
3. **Concert/Educational/Cultural Arrangements** are provided as authorized by local and national authorities. As such, the performance venue and schedules are subject to their discretion. Sightseeing and cultural activities are scheduled around these significant arrangements. *(HI is not responsible if inclement weather, local political situations, or changes made by the host concert site are cause for the last minute cancellation or change of a concert.)*
4. **Accommodations** in deluxe hotel rooms. The price is based on double/triple occupancy, all rooms with private facilities.
5. **Breakfast provided each morning** and two dinners (drinks not included).
6. **Sightseeing excursions** in and around Havana. Guides are also selected based upon experience, referral, knowledge and ability to deal with people.
7. **Assistance** from HI staff as requested. Members of the HI staff will be with the group throughout the Tour.
8. A pre-departure **HI Travel Packet** is available to each participant containing useful information about travel preparation, destination information, useful packing and cultural conditioning suggestions as well as insights and travel documents.
9. A **Printed itinerary** is given to each individual listing hotel addresses, local contact phone numbers, and HI staff contact procedure.
10. **Individual health insurance coverage** is included in ALL HI projects covering each individual.
11. **Tour Management** is conducted by HI working directly with local agencies to establish objectives, develop itineraries, and coordinate all items related to the Tour.

NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR

1. U.S. Passport or process of obtaining a passport.
2. Domestic travel to Miami Int'l Airport.
3. Lunches and some dinners.
4. Cuba exit tax (approx. \$25).

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