



Discover Havana and Trinidad with Mary Brown Malouf
October 21-28, 2018



Mary Brown Malouf has combined a degree in Latin (go figure!) and a lifelong passion for exploring cultures through art, nature, and cuisine into a 25-year-career in writing about food, travel, people, and places. Mary has traveled to every state in the country, except a few in the Midwest, as well as to Botswana, Zimbabwe, Nepal, France, Mexico, Italy, Great Britain, Scotland, Greece, and Turkey and stayed in all kinds of accommodations, from tents to trailers to The Savoy Hotel in London. Currently editor and dining critic at Salt Lake magazine, Mary and Nancy Nichols worked together as food editors at D Magazine where Mary was the executive editor. They became best friends and have spent many years eating, drinking, and thinking together. Mary's award-winning work has also appeared in Food Network magazine, The Salt Lake Tribune, The Dallas Morning News, Better Homes & Gardens SIPs, Ski Utah, and many other publications.



Nancy Nichols was the Food and Travel Editor at D Magazine for 21 years. It was a perfect job for her as she loves to eat and travel and travel to eat. Nancy's culinary adventures have taken her to Cuba for 8 tours over the last 3 years, Africa (11 times), Vietnam, Thailand, Borneo, Brazil, Uzbekistan, Czech Republic, and many other destinations. She has studied cooking in Bangkok, Singapore, France, Italy, and England.

Besides writing about food, Nancy has led successful group culinary tours through Cornwall, Italy, the Caribbean, Alaska, New York, Los Angeles, Texas, and Havana. She is currently concentrating on Cuba and offers three to four of her successful Eat, Drink, Think Cuba programs each year. She also customizes trips for groups who are looking to discover Cuba with a slant on music, art, photography, and art.

Nancy traveled all over Cuba and lived with families. She learned to cook (and eat!) local foods from home cooks. Her hosts took her to local markets and restaurants where she was introduced to Cuban chefs, cooks, and agricultural workers at fresh food markets and farms. In February 2016, she participated in a tour of Havana focused on the music scene.

Before her tenure at D Magazine, she spent close to 20 years working in and around the food business working in many different capacities --- from her first job as a waitress at the J. C. Penny's coffee shop to catering Christmas parties for Steven Spielberg and Jane Fonda. In between she was an event coordinator for the L.A. Coliseum and Sports Arena and

produced events ranging from NBA basketball games to Bruce Springsteen concerts. A native of Dallas, she spent 11 years in Los Angeles before returning to Dallas in 1992 just as the local dining scene began its transformation.



About Cuba Educational Travel

Cuba Educational Travel (CET) is a leader in cultural travel to Cuba. CET unlocks the best of Cuba by providing access to the country's top artists, academics, tastemakers, and cultural figures. CET's tailor-made programs enable clients to experience Cuba's vibrant culture and gain a deeper understanding of the island, while ensuring full compliance with all U.S. regulations.

CET has been on the frontlines of cultural collaboration, helping to bring Cubans to the U.S. and Americans to Cuba. From Yoga retreats to concerts to dance performances, CET has wide-ranging experience and contacts. Recent highlights include organizing the Diplo Major Lazer concert in Havana, which drew a crowd of over 500,000 people and bringing Lizz Alfonso Dance Cuba, the country's top dance group, to perform at the Latin Grammys.





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Sunday, October 21

- Midday **Arrival to Havana.** (pending flight information) **Meet your CET representative** at the exit of the terminal and transfer to hotel.
- Upon arrival, we will take an orientation driving tour of the city.** Visit **Vedado Neighborhood** stopping off at the **Revolution Square**, the gathering place for political demonstrations and the home to many important government offices. **Visit the eastern side of the Bay of Havana**, to explore the surrounding areas of El Morro Castle, La Cabana fortress, and the statue of El Cristo.
- TBD **Settle in to the historic Hotel Capri**, which was one of the first hotel casinos built by the American mafia in Cuba. Owned by mobster Santo Trafficante, and run by George Raft, the hotel was at a time one of the largest casinos in Havana. Located blocks from the University of Havana, Coppelia ice cream, and the Havana seawall, the recent remodeling provides first class amenities, while leaving the history and original charm of “The Capri.”
- 6 pm Check out live Beatles cover band music at the popular, Yellow Submarine nightclub. On Sundays, this staple in Havana pays tribute to Fidel’s beloved Beatles.
- 8 pm **Welcome dinner at Paladar Atelier.** This restaurant is equally known for its atmosphere and exquisite cuisine. The lighting and textures of the house, which was home to a pre-revolutionary senator, coupled with walls adorned in modern art, create a cozy, but modern setting.

Monday, October 22

- 10 am **Walking tour of Old Havana’s Historic Center**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982. Wander through the **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. See the **Plaza de San Francisco**, a cobbled plaza surrounded by buildings dating from the 18th century, dominated by the baroque Iglesia and Convento de San Francisco dating from 1719. Visit the **Plaza Vieja**, surrounded by sumptuous houses of the Havana aristocracy from the 18th and 19th centuries. Visit **Plaza de la Catedral de San Cristóbal de La Habana**.
- 12 pm **Lunch at Doña Eutimia paladar.** Famous for its *ropa vieja* and frozen mojitos, this cozy paladar made Newsweek Magazine’s top 100 restaurants in the world in 2012. The restaurant’s location in the beautiful cathedral square is unbeatable.
- 1:30 pm **Visit to the Museum of the Revolution**, which holds hundreds of artifacts from pre- and post-revolutionary times and highlights the tense relationship between the U.S. and Cuba.
- 3 pm **Visit to the Litz Alfonso Academy, a women-led dance company and school for local youth**, specializing in various types of dance. We will watch a private performance by the adolescent dance group and sit with the dancers afterward to discuss how they came to join the school and the impact it has had on them. The talent and work ethic at this school is impressive.

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7:30 pm **Dinner at Paladar San Cristobal.** Located in the heart of Central Havana, this paladar has a reputation of excellence in both atmosphere and local cuisine. Enjoy great food while the local takes you back to the 1940s and 50s. Prior to the meal, **enjoy a discussion with Restaurateur and Executive Chef, Carlos Cristobal Marquez.**

Tuesday, October 23

9 am **Tour of agricultural market and food ration store** to better understand purchasing power and consumption.

10:30 am **Depart for Finca Marta,** about a 40 minute-drive to the west of Havana.

11:15 am **Meeting with Fernando Funes and tour of his farm Finca Marta.** Funes is one of the most sought-after figures in Cuban culinary circles. Finca Marta, the 20-acre farm he named in honor of his late mother, is the result of the organic-farming work he's done for the last quarter century and it supplies organic produce to many of Havana's top-rated "paladares," the privately-owned restaurants that are transforming the island's reputation for uninspired dining.

12:30 pm **Enjoy a farm-to-table experience** on the grounds of Finca Marta.

2:30 pm Return to Havana.

3:30 pm **Visit to the home and studio of mosaic artist Fuster,** who has converted his neighborhood into an art project featuring murals, mosaic tiles and other designs.

6:30 pm **Rum and cigar tasting at the Hotel Nacional.** A local expert will explain the qualities and traits of fine Cuban rum and cigars, pairing them together for the perfect match.

Evening free *CET Travel Curators will assist with meal reservations and coordinate transportation if you'd like to check-out one of Havana's fine paladares.*

Wednesday, October 24

8:30 am **Check-out and depart for Cienfuegos,** referred to as the "Pearl of the South," is one of Cuba's only cities to display French and Spanish architecture. Housed on one of the country's largest bays, the city offers beautiful ocean front landscapes, and is deeply rich in culture.

12 pm **Visit to the beautiful Palacio Del Valle** in the Punta Gorda neighborhood. This palace is an architectural jewel and a National Heritage Memorial in Cienfuegos, a place of cultural events, restaurant, bar and museum. **Enjoy a cocktail on the rooftop** and enjoy the beautiful view of the city and the bay.

12:40 pm **Lunch at Finca del Mar,** a modern paladar overlooking the calm waters of the Cienfuegos Bay.

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- 2 pm **Tour of Cienfuegos Historic Center: Parque Marti**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and national monument. This vast square is revered for its historical importance and symbolic significance, not only because it is the official site of establishment of the city but also due to an architecturally noteworthy group of buildings surrounding the square.
- 3 pm **Continue to Trinidad**, a UNESCO world heritage site, known for its cobble stoned streets, pastel colored homes and small-town feel.
- 4:30 pm **Check-in at Boutique bed and breakfasts in Trinidad, also known as “casas particulares”**. These charming, well-run, boutique establishments offer privacy, charm and authenticity. The common areas and attentive staff will make you feel at home, while your private quarters will give you the comfort you need. A great way to take advantage of Cuba’s charm and wonderful hospitality.
- 7:30 pm **Trinidad welcome dinner at Los Conspiradores paladar**, located at the foot of the main plaza and the lively Casa de la Musica.

Thursday, October 25

Personal day to enjoy Trinidad. Ask your guide about day trips to the nearby Topes de Collentes, visiting Playa Ancon, taking in the historical sights, or shopping in the city enter.

CET Travel Curators will assist with meal reservations if you’d like to check-out one of Trinidad’s best paladares.

Friday, October 26

- 9 am Check-out and return to Havana.
- 1:30 pm **Lunch at Mediterraneo Havana**, a modern, family run paladar in the Vedado neighborhood. This cozy paladar produces much of what it serves at a nearby farm in Guanabacoa Cuba, including the vegetables and dairy products.
- 3 pm Check-in at Hotel Capri.
- 4:30 pm Optional: **Attend salsa lessons** to learn the moves of Cuba’s most famous type of dance. At Altamira
- 6:30 pm **Enjoy a discussion and private lesson on the art of Cuban cocktails**. Learn the art of making Cuban classics like a Mojito, Daquiri, or a Blue Dream.
- 8 pm **Dinner at Habana 61**, a modern new hotspot that takes its stab at classic Cuban dishes. Located in the heart of Old Havana, chef Pedro Pablo’s food will certainly not disappoint.

Saturday, October 27

- 10:30 am **Visit to La Finca Vigía.** Formerly the home of Ernest Hemingway, today it still houses his expansive collection of books. It was here where he wrote two of his most celebrated novels: *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Old Man and the Sea*. The beautiful grounds and bizarre tales from Hemingway's many years in Cuba are captivating.
- 12 pm **Farm visit and cooking lesson followed by lunch at Café Ajiaco, located** in the little town of **Cojímar**, where Ernest Hemingway used to go fishing in his boat, El Pilar, and the setting for his story *The Old Man and the Sea*, which won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.
- 7:30 pm **Cruise in style to dinner in classic American Automobiles.**
- 8 pm **Farewell dinner at Tierra**, Havana's newest international dining spot. Located inside a container in the Fábrica de Arte Cubano, the restaurant mirrors the eclectic crowd, serving dishes from around the world. Prior to the meal, **enjoy a discussion with Tierra's owner Niuris Higuera**s about running her private businesses in Cuba.
- Suggestion* Following dinner, **enjoy live music, art and dancing at La Fábrica de Arte Cubano**. Rock star X Alfonso has turned this into meeting spot for a young, eclectic crowd of Cubans and foreigners.

Sunday, October 28

- TBD Check-out and depart for airport. (pending flight information)

[PRICING DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE](#)

MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING / SALES AGREEMENT
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Please carefully read our company policies listed below. It is your responsibility to inquire about, and fully understand, change and cancellation policies regarding your travel arrangements.

GROUND PACKAGE*:

	13-18 passengers	19-24 passengers	25+ passengers
Double occupancy	\$3,730 per person*	\$3,525 per person*	\$3,305 per person*
Single occupancy	\$4,330 per person*	\$4,115 per person*	\$3,905 per person*

**Based on a minimum of 13 paying passengers*

INCLUDED

- 7-nights' accommodations in Cuba
 - 5 nights in Havana
 - 2 nights in Trinidad
- Daily breakfast
- Meals (as specified on the itinerary)
- Meal reservations (as specified on the itinerary)
- Professional, bilingual guide for listed activities
- Local ground transportation for listed activities
- Pre-trip departure information
- Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department regulations, including Cuban Visa
- Speaker fees
- Admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary
- Coordination of all listed activities

NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare is not included. We recommend you fly to MIA. Nancy will assist you in joining the group for the Miami to Havana flight.
- Meals and activities other than listed on itinerary
- Individual house or hotel expenses (*mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc.*)
- Tips for local guides, drivers, restaurant service, etc.
- Trip is cancellation insurance (recommended from a 3rd party provider, please ask)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PAYMENT:

- Payment will be made in two installments:
- A deposit of \$1,000 per person is due by 120 days prior to departure: June 23, 2018.
- A signed copy of the Memorandum of Understanding must be turned in with the deposit.
- Full payment will be due 90 days prior to departure: July 23, 2018.
- Please inquire if you are interested in purchasing trip insurance from a certified, third party.

Payment can be made with a check, cashier's check, or money order. Credit cards are not accepted. Checks should be made out to Cuba Educational Travel and mailed to:

Cuba Educational Travel
Attn: Mary Brown Malouf
72 Highland Ave.
West Islip, NY 11795

CANCELLATION and REPLACEMENT POLICIES:

- The sale is final.
- Cancellations made before 120 days prior to the trip are eligible for a full refund.
- Cancellations made 119-91 days prior to trip departure are eligible for a 50 percent refund.
- Cancellations made within 90 days of trip departure are not eligible for a refund.
- In some instances, time permitting, a different traveler can take the place of a scheduled participant for a processing fee of \$350.
- ***If U.S. policy is altered to make it so that the trip is not compliant with U.S. law regarding travel to Cuba, a full refund will be granted. This will ONLY be the case if there is no legal avenue for travel to Cuba that would allow for the trip to move forward.***

UNUSED SERVICES & REFUNDS:

No refund or adjustment can be made for any portion of the services not used such as voluntary non-usage of hotel accommodations, scheduled meals or any planned activity described in your itinerary.

PASSPORT AND VISA:

All travelers are required to carry a valid passport and a Cuban visa. Those without a valid passport and visa will not be allowed to enter. Passport should be valid for a minimum of 6 months after departure date.

IMPORTANT:

Your trip is designed and implanted to comply with U.S. regulations on travel to Cuba as well as local laws in Cuba. Cuba Educational Travel is not responsible for violations as a result of travelers ignoring advice, altering programs on the ground or breaking Cuban law.

RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

Cuba Educational Travel serves only to assist in making necessary travel arrangements for its participating members, and in no way represents, or acts as agent for, transportation carriers, hotels, and other suppliers of services connected with this tour. Therefore, is not liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, weather, strike, hostilities, wars, natural disasters or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Cuba Educational Travel does not accept liability for any airline cancellation or delay incurred by the purchase of an airline ticket. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. Cuba Educational Travel reserves the right to make changes in the published itineraries whenever, in its sole judgment, conditions so warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants.

Cuba Educational Travel also reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a participant in the tours, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such an action is determined by the appropriate Cuba Educational Travel representative to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group, or of the individual participant.

The undersigned has read carefully the schedule of activities for this tour. The undersigned recognizes that there is a moderate level of physical activity involved in the tour and the tour may require participants to walk long distances and climb stairs. The undersigned accepts any risks thereof and the conditions set forth therein. The undersigned agrees to release and hold harmless Cuba Educational Travel any of their officers or representatives from any and all liability for delays, injuries or death, or for the loss of or damage to, his/her property however occurring during any portion of the program.

Client Name _____

CET Representative _____

Date _____

Date _____

Client Signature _____

CET Signature _____

Trip Name Mary Brown Malouf

Trip Date October 21-28, 2018