



# CUBA

## LATIN BEATS

Discover the history, art, dance and music of this culturally rich land with Friends of KSDS and host Chris Springer!

**March 25- March 31, 2016**



Join host Chris Springer and fellow KSDS listeners on an in-depth music and cultural exploration of the isle of Cuba. Enjoy hearing the famous rhythms of son Cubano and rumba in the very place they were invented. Visit the National Museum of Fine Arts, Havana's botanical gardens and many of Hemingway's haunts. In addition, you'll stroll through the colorful plazas of Old Havana, enjoy fun salsa and drumming lessons and cruise the Malecón in a perfectly restored 1950s Chevy. This custom "people to people" journey has been specially designed for the KSDS traveler who is interested in music, art, history, architecture and culture.

### TRIP AT A GLANCE

1 Night Miami  
5 Nights in Havana, Hotel Memories Miramar



*Earthbound Expeditions has been issued a license by the Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) authorizing us to organize and operate "people to people" programs to Cuba.*



### Earthbound Expeditions

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA  
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[www.EarthboundExpeditions.com](http://www.EarthboundExpeditions.com)

"My big fish must be somewhere."  
Ernest Hemingway, *The Old Man and the Sea*



### IT'S INCLUDED

- Travel with KSDS host Chris Springer
- An Earthbound Expeditions representative
- An expert bilingual Cuban guide
- Round trip charter air tickets from Miami to Havana
- Tickets to jazz concerts
- A rumba session experience
- A jazz workshop directed by respected Cuban jazz artists
- Accommodations as listed in itinerary
- Multi-course traditional meals highlighting Cuban cuisine (all meals included except for 1 breakfast and 1 dinner)
- Bottled water daily and national drinks with meals
- Live music performances while dining
- Transport by private motor coach while in Cuba
- All entrances as listed in itinerary
- Airport transfers in Cuba
- Gratuities for your driver and guides
- Cuban government emergency medical insurance plan up to \$1,000
- Alumni discounts applied towards future trips with KSDS
- An informational gathering in Miami the night before departure to Cuba

### TRIP FACTS

7 Days/6 Nights

\$3,675 per person double occupancy (*land and charter air from Miami to Havana*)

\$ 395 Single Supplement (*waived if you are willing to share and a roommate is found*)

Starting in Miami on Friday, March 25, 2016

Returning to Miami Int'l airport on Thursday, March 31 (*charter arrival time TBA*)

**NOT INCLUDED:** Flight from your home city to/from Miami \* Cuba visa fee of \$75 \* Travel insurance up and above the included \$1,000 mandatory medical insurance \* Cuban airport departure tax of \$30 \* Extra baggage fees \* Additional concerts



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## Your KSDS Adventure Begins...



### Day 1: March 25 - Arrive in Miami

8:00PM: Meet your KSDS host, Chris Springer, in our private reception room at the Miami Airport Marriott hotel for a welcome orientation. The Marriott hotel is located just ten minutes away from the airport and offers a complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport. *Sleep in Miami*

### Day 2: March 26 – Depart Miami and Arrive in Historic Havana

Early this morning depart your hotel for the airport to check in for the charter flight from Miami to Havana. Charter flight times are not released until one month prior to departure. Your airline tickets and Cuban visas will be distributed at check-in by your Earthbound representative.

After clearing Cuban customs and immigration, you are welcomed by your Cuban National guide holding a “KSDS” sign outside the terminal. Our guide will assist with the transfer to Old Havana (Habana Vieja) where we have lunch together in the heart of the city. After lunch, our guide will lead us on a stroll through the colorful cobblestone streets of this lively neighborhood.

Check into our hotel later this afternoon and freshen up and relax with a cool mojito.

7:00PM: Meet your KSDS host, Chris Springer, and Cuban guide and walk to dinner this evening to one of Havana’s best known paladars (private home restaurants). *Sleep in Havana (L, D)*

### Day 3: March 27 – Cuba's National Art Schools, an Education in Santeria and Rumba

This morning we visit the Plaza de la Revolucion, the Cemetery of Christopher Columbus, and the Miramar area before continuing on to Cuba’s National Art Schools (now known as the Instituto Superior de Arte). These structures are considered by historians to be one of the most outstanding architectural achievements of the Cuban Revolution. These innovative, organic Catalan-vaulted brick and terra-cotta buildings were built on the site of a former country club in the far western Havana suburb of Cubanacán, which used to be Havana’s “Beverly Hills” and was then mainly reserved for Communist Party officials. The schools were conceived and founded by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara in 1961, and they reflect the utopian optimism and revolutionary exuberance of the early years of the Cuban Revolution. Over their years of active use, the schools served as the primary incubator for Cuba’s artists, musicians, actors, and dancers. The schools’ design fell out of favor by



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1965 and the buildings were nearly completely decommissioned until preservation efforts were mounted in force in the 1990s. Now tentatively on the list of World Heritage sites, they are in use, though still in various states of disrepair.

Lunch today is served at a restaurant located in the elegant Miramar section of Havana.

We'll then depart for the "Cabildo Quisicuba Socio-Cultural Project," operated by Dr. Enrique Alemán in collaboration with the community in the Centro Habana municipality, specifically in the Los Sitios neighborhood. Its aim is to rehabilitate traditional folk culture, taking into account the spiritual, cultural and material needs of this population.

This is an opportunity to visit a private Santeria house. The Santeria religion is a system of beliefs that merges the Yoruba religion, (brought to the New World by enslaved West Africans sent to the Caribbean to work on sugar plantations) with Roman Catholic and Native American traditions. The Africans brought with them various religious customs, including a trance for communicating with their ancestors and deities, animal sacrifice and sacred drumming and dance.

In addition, we'll attend a neighborhood rumba performance.

**Cultural Note:** In 1985 the Cuban Minister of Culture stated: "Rumba without Cuba is not rumba, and Cuba without rumba is not Cuba." Today Cuban rumba is a performance genre involving dance, percussion, and song. There are three main forms: yambú, guaguancó, and columbia. Rumba is an amalgamation of several transplanted African dance and drumming traditions, combined with Spanish influences.

We'll have dinner together accompanied by a live musical performance and a jazz outing will be offered after dinner. *Sleep in Havana (B, L, D)*



**Day 4: March 28 – The History of Dance and Conservatorio**

**Guillermo Tomás:** After breakfast we're off to the Havana Country Club to learn about the history of music and dance in Cuba. Multiple instructors will explain how this small island became a major powerhouse in terms of music and dance. The Cha Cha Cha, Rumba, Salsa and Merengue all come from Cuba. After a thorough demonstration you'll be invited to learn some of the dances with the instructors.

This afternoon we'll visit the Conservatorio Guillermo Tomás.

When the musicians of Jazz at Lincoln Center went to Havana, they loved each of the four schools they visited. One that particularly touched their hearts however, was the Conservatorio Guillermo Tomás, located just outside Havana in one of the poorer districts called Guanabacoa. There the kids played for the musicians, the musicians played for the kids, and it was an unforgettable experience for all of them.



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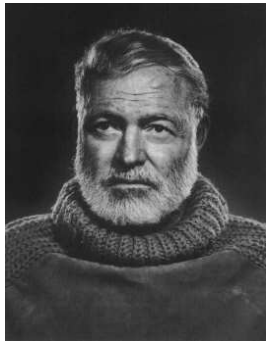
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The school caters to 500 students ranging in age from 8 to 19. Gifted students enter the school at an early age, and study academic and musical subjects for the next 10 years. The 40 students that graduate every year go on to join the best symphony, chamber and popular orchestras, or become music professors for new students.

Dinner this evening is at another of Havana's wonderful paladars. Join your host this evening for an included evening jazz concert. *Sleep in Havana (B, L, D)*



### **Day 5: March 29 – A Day with Hemingway and Museum of Fine Arts**

This morning we're off to visit Finca Vigía (Lookout Farm) where North America's literary giant, Ernest Hemingway, spent twenty-one of his most important and productive years penning building blocks of English literature. Claimed by both the United States and Cuba as their son, it was Hemingway himself who declared the island his true home. Before returning to Havana we stop by the quaint fishing village of Cojimar which served as the setting for *The Old Man and the Sea*. There we'll enjoy a short tour of the village and enjoy lunch at a local paladar.

After lunch, we'll visit the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes (National Museum of Fine Arts), known for its international and Cuban art. The comprehensive Colección de Arte Cubano comprises three floors of art, spanning works from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries by prominent Cuban artists, but concentrates primarily on pieces from the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Across the street from the Fine Arts Museum is the impressive Museum of the Revolution. Sitting outside are the American Jeeps and planes used during the failed Bay of Pigs landing. Also worth noting, the yacht named *Granma* that was used to transport 82 Cuban fighters and Fidel Castro to the shores of Cuba from Mexico in 1956.

We return to the hotel in the early evening. Dinner is on your own. For those interested, we can meet up later to venture off to one of Havana's many popular jazz clubs. *Sleep in Havana (B, L)*

### **Day 6: March 30 – Hands-on Drumming, Havana Folklore and Cigar Factory**

Even those not musically inclined, will enjoy this morning's activity. Accompanied by your host, Cuban guide and professional instructors, you'll enjoy learning about the Cuban rhythms through this hands-on drumming and percussion class, after which we'll enjoy a hearty lunch.

This afternoon we'll visit a cigar factory to learn about the history of tobacco in the Americas. Then we are off to experience a bit of culture at the Havana Folklore Society. *Sleep in Havana (B, L, D)*

### **Day 7: March 31 - Depart Cuba for Miami**

We transfer to Havana's Jose Marti Airport where we check in for our flight to Miami. (Charter flight time TBA). (B)



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### THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...

Cuba is a developing country and still lacks many modern conveniences. It's not unusual to experience short power black-outs or to find that your hot water, air-conditioning, internet, TV or phone in your hotel room does not work properly (or at all). Further, the Cuban government and incoming Havana agency have the right to change the itinerary without notice (and often do). We'll be travelling under a "people to people" license, which means that our days will be filled with many educational experiences as expected by the US government. Activities will begin each day around 8:30am and end around 5:00pm. This is not a trip for those looking for a leisurely, beach holiday or tons of free time. Travelers who arrive in Havana with sense of humor, an open mind and are ready to be flexible will absolutely fall in love with the people and culture of Cuba.

### RESERVATIONS

**Reservations and Deposits:** Early reservations are essential to guarantee space on the date you wish to travel. A per person deposit of \$500 is needed to confirm your space. Deposits and final payments must be made by check, money order or credit card. Deposits are refundable for 30 days from the date received or 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. A \$75 dollar per person processing fee will be applied to all cancellations, regardless of when they are made. Once the deposit is processed, a deposit packet is sent with pertinent journey details.

**Final Payment:** You will be sent an invoice approximately 75 days prior to departure. A non-refundable final payment, payable by money order, check or credit card, is due 60 days before departure. It is the responsibility of each traveler to make a timely payment. A final packet of information will be sent approximately three weeks before departure. Mail payments to: Earthbound Expeditions, PO Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110, USA.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be made in writing and are effective upon receipt in our office. Deposits are fully refundable for 30 days from the processing date or 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. Deposits made 90 days prior to a trip departing are not refundable. A \$75 per person processing fee applies to all cancellations.

No refunds are made for cancellations after the non-refundable deposit date. It is for this reason we strongly encourage the purchase of travel insurance at the same time you reserve your journey with us. Please refer to your specific journey details, especially private and hosted journeys, as policies may differ.



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## Your host Chris Springer

Chris Springer, better known as 'C-Love', loves Latin jazz and the energy it brings through improvisation and percussion rhythms. His favorite artists include Mario Bauza and Cal Tjader. His favorite jazz instruments are the timbales, the Fender Rhodes and the flute. Chris started working for KSDS in 2000. Soon after, he started playing the Salsa hour in 2003 which evolved into Latin Grooves, which now airs from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

~ Itinerary Subject to Change ~



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**CUBAN VISA/ RESERVATION FORM**  
**KSDS Cuba Journey**  
*March 25-31, 2016*

**First Name:**

**Middle Name:**

**Last Name:**

**Mother's Maiden Name:**

**Country of Birth:**

**Date of Birth:**

**Passport Number:**

**Date of Issue:**

**Date of Expiry:**

**Nationality:**

**Male or Female:**

**Street Address:**

**City:**

**State:**                      **Zip:**

**Home Phone Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Emergency Contact Name & number:**

**Special Requests:**

*\* If you were born in Cuba and emigrated to the United States prior to 1970 you must obtain a special visa from the Cuban Interest Section in Washington D.C. Please contact our office for more information.*



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