Cuba is a lively, inviting Caribbean cultural center. As of late, it’s been enjoying an exciting revival, with committed locals working on countless community art projects; agricultural and conservation initiatives; progressive dance, theater, and choir groups; dedicated educational programs, and more. Your family will witness it all on this eye-opening new adventure, and the first ever Cuba trip exclusively for families. Explore the beautiful bays, palm-lined streets, and old Spanish cathedrals and fortresses of Havana.

Meet young local artists and craft workers, community leaders, musicians, students, teachers, and farmers. Watch youth theater and choir performances, learn from environmental scientists about the restoration of local jungles, and witness a private rehearsal by a contemporary Afro-Cuban dance company. Cuba is an incredible learning experience for people of all ages, and this family adventure offers a captivating window into a world that’s so close, yet so foreign in many marvelous ways.

Highlights:
- Connect with Cuban children and their families
- Meet, eat, & dance with local artisans
- Visit community projects, a dance school, music school, childrens theater & participate in little league practice
ITINERARY

Day 1 – Depart Home / Arrive Miami
Touch down in Miami, your family’s portal to Cuba, and prepare for a spectacularly eye-opening travel experience.
Accommodations: Hotel near Miami airport, or similar.

Day 2 – Miami to Havana
The day has finally come – welcome to Cuba! Kick off your Cuban adventure with a walking tour of Old Havana. This UNESCO World Heritage Site dates back to 1519 and features a mix of Baroque and neoclassical architecture, balconies with wrought-iron gates, and Spanish courtyards in a beautiful tropical setting. While in the heart of Old Havana, your family will stop in at the Museo del Chocolate, or Chocolate Museum, to do a little bit of learning and a whole lot of tasting. Try all kinds of delicious chocolate, prepared all sorts of different ways right there on the premises. You’ll also meet up with a local Cuban family at the Museum. Dine like royalty tonight at a private restaurant with a picturesque view of the Bay of Havana. After dinner, head to La Cabaña Fortress, a stunning remnant of Havana’s colorful history. This 18th century castle was key to Havana’s defense against pirates (what kid doesn’t get excited to hear about pirates?!), as well as the British invaders that eventually succeeded in taking the city. You’ll have the chance to watch the nightly Changing of the Guard and the Firing of the Ceremonial Cannon.
Accommodations: Hotel Quinta Avenida, or similar.
Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 3 – Havana
This morning your family will visit a community art project and see firsthand the amazing creativity displayed by local artists of all ages. Afterwards, enjoy a private lunch at a paladar, one of the newly emerging privately-owned (and usually family-run) restaurants that are transforming the previously government-run and uninspired dining experience into an exciting and delicious manifestation of the new Cuba. Your family will love the authentic Cuban food made with love and a real personal touch. Later, you’ll see a performance by a youth theater group or a children’s choir. The wealth of talent among the youth of Cuba is quite inspiring! After the performance, take it easy and chill by the pool for a while before heading out for the night. You could always invite your Cuban pen pals family to join you! Eat this evening in another paladar, and then be chauffeured around Old Havana in a restored Chevrolet from the 1950s for a slice of the real Havana, a true classic charmingly frozen in time. Stop in the Plaza de la Catedral to grab a drink or just take in the scene before heading back to the hotel.
Accommodations: Hotel Quinta Avenida, or similar.
Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 4 – Havana
Today your family will be privy to something really special: a private rehearsal by a dance company that fuses Afro-Cuban elements with contemporary dance techniques. Lunch will be at a restaurant popularly believed to have the best pizza in Havana. Once you’ve had your fill of delicious pizza, learn how to play Cuban dominoes or go to a little league practice – dominoes and baseball are both important traditions in Cuba! Later on, visit an after school project to meet some local kids and volunteers and play some fun games, then enjoy a traditional Cuban chicken barbecue for dinner.
Accommodations: Hotel Quinta Avenida, or similar.
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 5 – Havana to Viñales Valley
You’ll drive to Soroa this morning, stopping on the way at the largest orchid farm in the world to enjoy the waterfalls and thriving gardens. Visit a local artist’s studio and learn about some of his projects, one of which is the restoration of a school. Drive this afternoon into the breathtaking Viñales Valley and explore the Cueva del Indio. It’ll be immediately apparent why this valley is on UNESCO’s World Heritage List when your family discovers the dramatic cliffs, caves, karst formations, ancient petroglyphs, and rounded hills called mogotes, not to mention the scenic farmland and the huge wealth of ethnic diversity and Afro-Cuban culture.
Accommodations: Hotel Rancho San Vicente
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

850-243-3809                        Tammy McDaniel owner of Tammys Journeys                 tammy@tammysjourneys.com
Day 6 – Viñales Valley
Continue on to Las Terrazas, stopping en route to meet with environmental scientists working to restore the jungles and forests in the area. You’ll meet some local artists and craft workers in their homes and studios and eat lunch at a family restaurant before visiting a small rural school in Soroa, where you and your children can interact with Cuban teachers and students.

Accommodations: Hotel Rancho San Vicente
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7 – Viñales Valley to Varadero
Your family will take a scenic drive along the coast to Matanzas. The atmosphere of this region of Cuba is something else altogether. Dazzlingly turquoise Caribbean waters caress soft white sand, and there’s a rich abundance of Afro-Cuban folklore and cultural history waiting to be discovered. This area is known for its past as a haven for poets! You’ll visit a potter’s house and farm to learn about some of the art projects taking place there and enjoy a nice lunch. Later, meet young students and enjoy a musical performance, then retire to the hotel to relax and enjoy the amenities.

Accommodations: Hotel Melia Varadero, or similar.
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8 – Varadero
This morning, visit a local community project in a nearby town. Eat lunch at the hotel and be sure to fuel up and prepare to feel the rhythm; it’s time for you and your family to meet some local dance instructors and learn various Cuban dances! Enjoy a farewell dinner tonight with your guide and new friends at the elegant Dupont mansion.

Accommodations: Hotel Melia Varadero, or similar.
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9 – Varadero
All great adventures must one day come to an end. Bid farewell to your new friends and beautiful Cuba as you head to the Havana airport for your flight to Miami, FL.

Meals Included: Breakfast
Why choose Thomson Family Adventures?

Because we know families… we were the first and remain the only company devoted exclusively to family travel. Adult tour companies have imitated us, but we are still – as we were in 1998 – the only one to offer strictly family adventures.

We offer meaningful family experiences like horizon-broadening encounters with local children.

Our Friends Across Borders program, has proven to be one of the most memorable components of our adventures for all who participate.

Our Guides are all native to the country you are visiting, so you gain real knowledge of local life from the get-go—something a non-local, no matter how scholarly, could never match.

Grandparents and Family Reunions—nothing can bring a family together like a shared travel experience. No matter the age difference—be it a parent and child, grandparent and grandchild or multiple generations—observing how we each see the world is not only remarkable but a sweet reminder that certain things in this world are, and will always be, totally ineffable.

Relax—you’re with Thomson—our expertise in this specialized field is unmatched, and we spend every minute of every day coming up with new ways to make family travel more fun, eye-opening and safe.

Accommodations – We’ve personally visited every ship, hotel, and campsite to be sure they all meet our family travel standards.

Meals – We know hungry kids and fussy eaters can make travel difficult, so our meals and buffets are carefully selected.

Transportation – It’s all taken care of: airport transfers, ground transportation, plenty of snacks on the vehicles, and no overly long drives—because nobody wants to hear, “Are we there yet?”

Included travel insurance – If the unexpected should arise—no worries, we have you covered.

Guaranteed departures – It’s tough to find time out of your busy schedule; school vacation is when it is, the kids’ summer camp is not going to move to a different week… Once you’ve confirmed a trip that works for your family, we won’t cancel on you.

Let us take care of all the details for you. Parenting is hard work—vacationing doesn’t need to be.
TRIP DETAILS

Included

• Services of a guide who will accompany you throughout the trip
• All entrance fees for sites indicated in the itinerary
• Accommodations based on double and triple occupancy at comfortable and distinctive tourist level hotels
• Meals as per the above itinerary
• Land transportation, airport transfers and internal air
• All excursions as listed in the itinerary
• Bottled water for the land portion of your tour
• Travel insurance – If the unexpected should arise—no worries, we have you covered.

Not Included

• Soda, beer, wine and spirits (where we include dinner, you will need to pay the bar tab)
• Fees for passports, visas and immunizations
• Meals and expenses en route to your destination
• Laundry, phone/fax/email, and other items of a personal nature
• Additional activities not listed on this itinerary
• Tips to your guide & driver
• Departure taxes

2014-15 Dates and Prices:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>10 or more travelers</th>
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<td>Dec 26-Jan 4</td>
<td>$4,290</td>
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Child Discount (<12): $200 off the adult price
Single Supplement: $2,000
Alumni Discount: $500 per family for returning Thomson guests

Payment & Cancellation Policy

Deposit: A $700 per person non-refundable deposit, payable by check or credit card, is due at the time of booking.

Final Payments: The balance is due no less than 90 days prior to departure (120 prior to departure for December trips) and is payable by personal check, money order, or wire transfer.

Cancellation & Refunds: Notification of cancellation must be made in writing to Thomson Family Adventures. Once notice is received, the following per person cancellation fees will apply:

<table>
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<th>Number of days Before Departure</th>
<th>Cancellation Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>90 – 61</td>
<td>50% of the package price</td>
<td>65% of the package price</td>
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<td>60 days or less</td>
<td>100% of the package price</td>
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In order to offer the best trip possible, Thomson Family Adventures reserves the right to change trip itineraries, prices and/or departure dates.

BOOKING YOUR TRIP IS EASY

Just give us a call at 800-262-6255. Our family travel advisors are here to help you choose and prepare for your family’s adventure. We are a special group of world travelers, many of us parents ourselves, who are here for you every step of the way. We provide personal attention to every detail, and we really do get to know all of our travelers as individuals—no phone banks, no voicemail, no scripting—just real live people who want your family to have the best adventure possible!

Be sure to check our website for newly added & sold out dates.

If you don’t see a date that works for you, call us; we can personalize any trip to meet your travel needs.

850-243-3809  Tammy McDaniel owner of Tammys Journeys  tammy@tammysjourneys.com

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