# CUBA BY AND & SEA

# REMARKABLE PEOPLE COLONIAL SPLENDOR ASTOUNDING UNDERSEA

ABOARD PANORAMA II | 2016-2017













From top, left to right: View across Havana, with the Hotel Nacional in the foreground; woman smoking cigar in Havana; Cuban fruit and vegetable sellers at a covered market; the Capitolio in Havana, modeled after the U.S. Capitol; a street scene; schoolmaster snappers in Jardines de la Reina; a vintage American car.







#### DEAR TRAVELER,

Like so many people who lived through the 1950s, 60s and the years since, I have been keenly aware of Cuba and its outsize influence on world history for most of my life. So when in 2014 I was able to travel there for the first time, I jumped at the chance.

That journey, organized by the Environmental Defense Fund and the Helmsley Trust, was an eye-opener. We met with key leaders and ordinary Cubans, and learned just how extraordinary the natural history and the cultures of Cuba are. I loved the experience, which included the best snorkeling and diving I have ever experienced in the Caribbean—Cubans have taken great care to protect their natural resources.



When I returned in February 2016, it was with the intention of creating something unique for our guests, beyond the normal experiences offered today. We were looking to combine culture,



history and nature, to introduce our guests to Cubans who are making a difference, and to make the experience both educational and exhilarating.

I believe we have succeeded in doing just that, as I hope you'll see when you read about our unique land and sea program in these pages.

As the Cuban Revolution approaches its 59th year, Cuba is on the cusp of great change. Its friendly people are eager for more economic opportunity. They are resilient and creative, and possess heart and determination in abundance.

I believe you will have a remarkable time if you join us, but do bring along

a sense of humor, patience, and a good dose of curiosity. A key purpose of travel is to see places different from our own, and Cuba certainly qualifies in that regard. I believe your journey there will be inspiring, great fun, and certainly hugely memorable.

I hope you choose to join us.

All the best,

Sven-Olof Lindblad

P.S. If you're inclined to spontaneity, the **December 7, 14** and **21, 2016** departures will be led by veteran EL Tom O'Brien, the first amongst us to explore Cuba in 1995.

CAPTURE THE SPIRIT OF CUBA–WATCH VIDEO OF SVEN'S RECONNAISSANCE EXPEDITION: VISIT EXPEDITIONS.COM/CUBARECON



"Cuba's most enigmatic appeal...is the sense that you are living inside a romantic thriller. Cuba is intoxicating, laced with the sharp edges and sinister shadows that made Ernest Hemingway wish that he could stay forever, and inspired poet Federico García Lorca to write to his parents, 'If

I get lost, look for me in Cuba.' No other Western nation offers such sensual and surreal sensations, made more romantic by Cuba's caught-in-a-time-warp setting. Finally, after six decades, U.S. citizens can now legally taste this forbidden fruit."



-CHRISTOPHER P. BAKER, AUTHOR OF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELER: CUBA

**WE ALL KNOW THE CUBAN REVOLUTION** has had an outsize influence on Cuban, hemispheric, and world affairs, and you'll learn what this has meant for the island's residents through our engaging people-to-people exchanges. You will see what life is like today for Cubans, and their

myriad and vibrant forms of self-expression: Cuban music and dance are celebrated worldwide for good reason. Juxtaposed with the architectural splendors of the past, the blossoming of the visual arts in recent years testifies to an optimistic emerging future. You'll gain insight into this and more: beautiful colonial cities, the iconic vintage cars, cigar production, and conservation efforts, all figure in our wellcrafted people-to-people program.

#### YOU MAY, HOWEVER, LEARN MUCH THAT IS SURPRISING

about Cuba, including this: it harbors among the richest marine environments in the world. The jewel in the crown is the Jardines de la Reina\* (Gardens of The Queen), the area surrounding a complex system of some 250 coral and mangrove islets on Cuba's south coast. It harbors a profusion of life: fish, corals, turtles, sponges, seagrasses, mangroves—and on the islands, a great deal of birdlife. Another area rich in nature, as well as history, is Cayo Largo and the Bay of Pigs, where you'll also have the opportunity to talk with Cubans for a deeper 360° view of our island neighbor.



From top to bottom: Dancers and percussionists at Habana Compás; the incredible health of the Cuban undersea owes much to Fidel Castro's ardent interest in scuba diving and protectionist stance.

TO SEE ANDERSON COOPER'S 60 MINUTES STORY ON THE JARDINES DE LA REINA, GO TO http://bit.ly/gardensqueen

# EXPERIENCE CUBA IN DEPTH, UP CLOSE & PERSONALLY

You'll benefit from our direct experience of Cuba. Veteran expedition leader, Tom O'Brien, will illuminate your discovery of Cuba with knowledge gained from a previous reconnaissance. And founder Sven Lindblad's recent reconnaissance trip helped to shape our exclusive itinerary (Watch the video: expeditions.com/cubarecon). In addition, you'll be joined by an expert naturalist, a cultural expert, and a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, plus local guides who will help you see more and enjoy richer people-to-people experiences. And our trio of December inaugural voyages will feature National Geographic archaeologist Fabio Amador (Dec 7), noted Cuban expert Christopher P. Baker (Dec 14), and National Geographic photographer Bob Krist (Dec 14, 21).



Representing our full team: From left to right: Veteran expedition leader Cindy Manning, Naturalist & Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor Mike Greenfelder, naturalist/marine biologist Carlos Navarro, and archaeologist and Senior Program Officer for the National Geographic Society/Waitt Grants Program Fabio Amador.

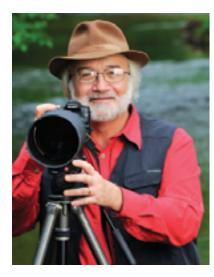
"In 1995 I represented Lindblad on a special two-week reconnaissance trip, building business ties between leading U.S. companies and Cuba in preparation for the day when relations were normalized. In the years since, we've been waiting eagerly with established plans and itineraries. How exciting that the day has finally come. We can't wait to share our enthusiasm for the fantastic culture and wildlife Cuba has to offer."

-TOM O'BRIEN, EXPEDITION LEADER

PLEASE VISIT EXPEDITIONS.COM/EXPERTBIOS AND SELECT YOUR ITINERARY TO LEARN WHICH STAFF IS TRAVELING ON YOUR DEPARTURE

# NEWS! EXCLUSIVE CUBA PHOTO EXPEDITION

Capture Cuba with National Geographic photographer Bob Krist & Cuba expert Christopher P. Baker | DECEMBER 14, 2016



### **BOB KRIST**

"Cuba is a paradise for photographers. It has everything: classic architecture, friendly people, beautiful weather, and fascinating culture. It is one of my top five photo destinations (and I've been to more than 140 countries!). I'm greatly looking forward to sharing what I've learned with our guests, and helping them get photos they'll be proud of."

# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Bob Krist will join us for the December 14, 2016 Photo Expedition, and the December 21, 2016 departure, as well. To learn more about his career achievements, visit expeditions.com/NGbios



### JUST ADDED... CHRISTOPHER P. BAKER

Travel writer Christopher P. Baker will join us as Cultural Specialist on the December 14, 2016 and February 8 & March 22, 2017 departures. Baker has written and photographed six books about Cuba, including the best-selling *Moon Cuba* and *National Geographic Traveler: Cuba* guidebooks, and the coffee-table book *Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles*. Share an inaugural Cuba departure with him, and benefit from his knowledge and insight into this extraordinary island nation.

## CUBA BY LAND AND SEA: CULTURAL HERITAGE & NATURAL WONDERS

11 DAYS/10 NIGHTS-PRICES FROM: \$9,500 TO \$14,250

#### **EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS**

- Experience extraordinary people-to-people visits in Havana over three days. Stay at the famed Hotel Nacional—a former haunt of Hemingway, Sinatra, and world leaders; steep yourself in the atmosphere of the New World's finest colonial buildings spanning four centuries. Then embark the yacht *Panorama II* for seven days.
- Explore the stunning Jardines de la Reina\* (Gardens of the Queen) Marine Park
  —with some of the finest coral reefs in the Caribbean, and islands rich with
  thriving birdlife.
- Visit the Bay of Pigs, where history and nature blend and where you'll learn about the failed U.S.-backed invasion of 1961.
- Explore beautiful Trinidad and Cienfuegos, UNESCO World Heritage sites; enjoy the country's famed music and endemic cuisine.

#### **DAY 1:** MIAMI, FLORIDA/HAVANA, CUBA Fly to Havana and transfer to the Hotel Nacional, a Havana landmark, where we stay for three nights.

On a walking visit, meander through historic squares, interacting with merchants and locals, and learn about ongoing efforts to preserve Old Havana. Later, drive along the Malecón, the waterfront esplanade where Cubans come to stroll and socialize. (L,D)



#### DAYS 2 AND 3: HAVANA

Get acquainted with Havana through your choice of people-to-people excursions: visit an auto workshop where inventive mechanics repair classic American cars, wander through Ernest Hemingway's estate at Finca Vigía, or get a Cuban perspective on Castro's revolution at the Museum of the Revolution. Visit a cigar factory, or learn about environmental education projects at the Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez. Enjoy meals in some of Havana's best *paladares*, and hear the signature rhythms of Cuba at an evening performance. (B,L,D) DAY 4: HAVANA/CIENFUEGOS/EMBARK After another chance to meet with residents of Havana, drive to Cienfuegos and embark the *Panorama II*. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 5: BAY OF PIGS

Drive from Cienfuegos to the Bay of Pigs, which gained worldwide renown when U.S.-backed Cuban exiles attempted to invade in 1961. We visit a museum that recounts the failed invasion, and talk to local people to learn what the episode means to Cubans today. In nearby Ciénaga de Zapata National Park, meet with naturalists and look for endemic birdlife such as the bee hummingbird—the smallest bird in the world. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 6: CAYO LARGO

On beautiful Cayo Largo, we have a people-to-people visit with island doctors and nurses at a local clinic to discuss Cuba's medical system. Then meet with researchers at a sea turtle breeding center. You'll have a chance to swim and snorkel, in the company of environmental guides. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 7: TRINIDAD

A World Heritage site, Trinidad is a meticulously preserved colonial city, perhaps Cuba's most beautiful. Take a walk along its cobblestone streets, visiting museums and meeting entrepreneurs and artists. After lunch, there's more time to get to know this charming town and its residents. (B,L,D)



#### DAYS 8 AND 9: JARDINES DE LA REINA NATIONAL PARK\*

Jardines de la Reina (Gardens of the Queen) is a marine protected area covering more than 850 square miles. Its reefs are some of the most robust in the Caribbean and home to large species such as lemon, hammerhead, and silky sharks as well as goliath groupers. Discover this unique marine habitat alongside ecologists and researchers, who are working to preserve the "Gardens." Go snorkeling or opt to scuba dive (at an additional cost) to encounter a great diversity of corals, fish, and other creatures. Stop on the islands to take walks with naturalists, looking for ospreys, frigatebirds, spoonbills, pelicans, and more. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 10: CIENFUEGOS

Sail into Cienfuegos, a UNESCO World Heritage site filled with elegant French-inspired architecture. Head into the town center on foot, seeing palaces, schools, churches, and residential houses. At the Graphic Arts Workshop, get to know local artists. Then meet up with musicians and singers for a musical performance. (B,L,D)

**DAY 11:** DISEMBARK/CIENFUEGOS/MIAMI Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport in Cienfuegos for our flight back to Miami. (B)

#### **EXPEDITION DETAILS**

DATES: 2016 Dec. 7, 14 🖾, 21, 28; 2017 Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22 🖾 Photo Expedition

\*Please note: Our visit to Jardines de la Reina is pending permission from Cuban officials and is subject to change. Lindblad Expeditions is authorized by the U.S. Treasury Department to conduct people-to-people travel programs in Cuba.

### PANORAMA II

CAPACITY: 44 guests in 22 outside cabins. REGISTRY: Greece. OVERALL LENGTH: 164 feet.

**PUBLIC AREAS:** The ship is fully air-conditioned. There is a sun deck and an al fresco area on the Upper Deck. There is a library area and the lounge has a full service bar and facilities for films, slide shows, and presentations. Guests are welcome on the "Open Bridge" to meet the Captain and Officers and learn about navigation.

**MEALS:** Served in single seatings with unassigned tables, for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Weather permitting, some meals are served al fresco on the Upper Deck. The menu is international, with a focus on local specialties.

**CABINS:** All have lower beds and face outside, with windows or portholes. Each has private facilities, individual climate controls, television, internal telephone, safe, and mini-fridge.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Snorkeling equipment is available.

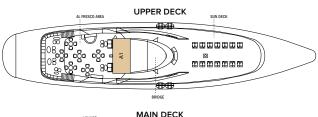
**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Guests may swim directly from the yacht's stern swim platform, weather permitting. Satellite Internet access is available on board.

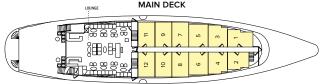
Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.

CATEGORY 1: Lower Deck # 14-17 Each cabin has a queen-size bed and a large porthole high in the cabin.	\$9,500
CATEGORY 2: Lower Deck # 21-25 Each cabin has either a queen-size bed or two lower single beds, and a large porthole high in the cabin.	\$10,200
CATEGORY 3: Main Deck # 1-12 Each cabin has either a queen-size bed or two lower single beds, and a window. Two sets of cabins can be interconnected: # 7 & 9, and # 8 & 10.	\$11,000
CATEGORY 4: Upper Deck # A1 This is the largest cabin aboard ship, and can be configured with either two lower single beds or a queen-size bed. It has two windows.	\$11,500
Sole occupancy cabins available in Category 1 only.	\$14,250

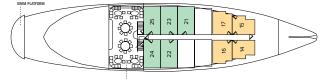
Shared Accommodations: Shares can be arranged at the double occupancy rate in Category 2 only.







LOWER DECK





Left to right: Panorama II offers gracious accommodation and comfort; Category 4 cabin; Category 3 cabin; Category 2 cabin; the aft area at the Upper Deck provides generous semicovered or sun-exposed areas where guests can enjoy meals al fresco, with wonderful views; the comfortable lounge is the hub of social activities and presentations.

#### For Reservations: Contact your travel advisor or Lindblad Expeditions 1.800.EXPEDITION (1.800.397.3348) WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**Cost Includes:** All accommodations (three nights in hotel in Havana and seven nights aboard ship); meals indicated; people-to-people visits; services of Lindblad Expeditions' Leader, staff and local guides; use of Zodiacs, snorkeling equipment and wetsuits; entrance fees; all port charges and service taxes.

**Not Included:** Air transportation; immigration/visa/passport fees; personal items: alcoholic beverages, emails, laundry, etc.; optional diving; discretionary tips to ship's crew.

Flight Information: All guests are required to travel on group flights (Miami/Havana, returning Cienfuegos/Miami), which must be booked and ticketed by Lindblad Expeditions. Sample Airfares: Miami/Havana, Cienfuegos/Miami: Economy from \$440; Business from \$690 (December rates: Economy from \$520; Business from \$690). Airfares subject to change. We will gladly assist with your flights for a \$50 per person service fee.

Advance Payment: \$1,000 due at time of booking.

Responsibility and Other Terms & Conditions: Certain provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and the National Geographic Society's liability for loss of property, injury, illness or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure, and are also available on our web site at www.expeditions.com/ terms, or upon request. By registering for this trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions. **Important:** Cancellations are subject to penalty. Visit our website for details on our Cancellation Policy and Travel Protection Plan.

**Note:** Itineraries and prices listed in this brochure are valid as of publication date, and are subject to change.

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#### **SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS**

- » Condé Nast Traveler's Readers' Choice Award—Top Small Ship Cruise Lines, 2015, 2014
- » Porthole Cruise Magazine Readers' Choice Awards: Best Expedition Cruise Line, 2015
- The Tourism Cares Travel Philanthropy Awards: Legacy in Travel Philanthropy, 2015
- » World Travel Awards: World's Leading Green Cruise Line, 2015
- » Condé Nast Traveler's 2014 Readers' Poll—Top 20 Small Cruise Ships in the World, 2014
- » Condé Nast Traveler World Savers "Doing it All" Award, 2013
- » Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Award—Top 25 Cruise Lines, 2013

- » Condé Nast Traveler "Gold List," 2013, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005
- » Virtuoso "Sustainable Tourism Leadership-Supplier" Award, 2013
- Travel + Leisure "World's Best" Award for Small-Ship Cruise Lines, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008
- Travel + Leisure "World's Best for Families" Award for Small-Ship Cruise Lines, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009
- » Cruise Critic Editor's Pick Awards "Best for Adventure," 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010
- » Climate Champion Award to Sven Lindblad by Clean Air-Cool Planet, 2009
- » Tourism for Tomorrow "Global Tourism Business Award," 2007

GO TO WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM/AWARDS FOR AN EXTENDED LIST.