

Cornell University



Cornell's Adult University (CAU)

Cuba: Art, Culture & History

In Support of the Cuban People

with Corey Ryan Earle, Visiting Lecturer in American Studies and University Historian

January 10 – 16, 2025

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORT Cuba's **emerging private sector** during your stay, savoring meals at privately owned *paladares* (restaurants) and relaxing at a charming, privately owned boutique hotel in the heart of Havana

HEAR the **fascinating stories of Cuba's entrepreneurs**, including the co-founder of a growing lifestyle brand and the proprietor of a workshop that refurbishes Havana's famed vintage cars

JOIN a curator for a private tour of what *Time* magazine calls one of "the world's greatest places"—Havana's **Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC)**, a spellbinding, multilevel showcase of contemporary Cuban art

DELIGHT in a private, curator-led tour at the **Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana**, with its impressive collection of Cuban artworks

CELEBRATE at **exclusive receptions**, including a private event with dinner in the company of the President of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba and the young artists supported by the organization

MEET the thought leaders who are shaping Cuban society, including the **former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs**, who will share profound insights on Cuban politics

GAIN behind-the-scenes access to **an exciting rehearsal of a leading dance company**, watching as some of Cuba's most skilled contemporary dancers perfect their craft

TAKE a private tour of the splendidly renovated **Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso**, the ornately designed home to the Cuban National Ballet Company

VENTURE to the picturesque Cuban countryside for a **behind-the-scenes tour of a tobacco hacienda led by its farmers** and a private demonstration of the rolling and drying processes

EXPERIENCE Ernest Hemingway's Cuba at **Finca Vigía**, the house where he lived for 20 years and wrote some of his most important work, with a glimpse of his famous fishing boat *Pilar*

TRAVELING WITH YOU



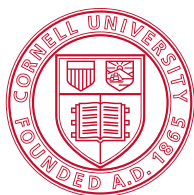
Corey Ryan Earle is a visiting lecturer at Cornell University, where he has taught over 4,500 students in a class on the history of Cornell since 2011. He serves as a Cornell history resource person for departments and organizations across campus while working in Alumni Affairs & Development. Passionate about the value of history and traditions in building community and a sense of belonging, Corey has written about the topic for [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

Corey received his B.S. in communication from Cornell University in 2007 and an M.A. in higher education administration and leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University in 2017. He previously served as board president of [The History Center in Tompkins County](#).

Check out [upcoming Cornell history-related events](#) or enjoy [past lectures and webinars](#). Corey can be contacted for speaking engagements by [sending an email](#).

Want more Cornell fun facts? Read the "[Storytime with Corey](#)" column in *Cornellians*, Cornell's alumni publication.

Raúl Martínez, *Isla 70* (left) and *Fénix* (right), Oil on canvas,, Museo Nacional de Bellas



Cornell University

Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

Visiting Cuba can be a transformative and moving experience. We invite you to join Cornell’s Adult University in Havana for an inspiring look at contemporary Cuban life that few visitors will witness. You’ll experience Cuba as a land of fascinating contradictions: Vintage automobiles fill the streets as if the 1950s never ended, yet the country stands on the cusp of change. An emerging private sector now gives Cubans opportunities that were once unimaginable.

In January 2025, please join us on an exclusive journey in support of the Cuban people. Connect with diverse local personalities, including a former ambassador, entrepreneurs, creators, and dancers. Go behind the scenes at museums and galleries, enjoy private receptions, and venture into the homes of local artists. Discover how Cuba’s complex history, shaped by colonialism, revolution, and the intermingling influences of Indigenous, European, and African cultures, has inspired powerful works of art.

Take inspiration from ambitious business owners driving Cuba’s developing private sector, including a mother-daughter pair who are thriving in different industries (dance and fashion). On a beautiful excursion to Cuba’s countryside, meet farmers for a private tour of a *hacienda* producing one of the country’s most lucrative and famous crops: tobacco. Transport yourself to the pages of Ernest Hemingway’s novels, visiting his longtime home where he wrote such classics as *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Corey Ryan Earle, a visiting lecturer in American Studies from Cornell University, will join you as your traveling study leader. His knowledge of Cornell’s myriad connections to Cuba, including the impact of Cuban president and Cornell alumnus **Mario García Menocal**, Class of 1888, will enhance your experience of the country’s multilayered heritage. We are proud to support Cuba’s privately owned businesses throughout this program, including accommodations at a boutique hotel and most meals at paladares (small, private, family-run restaurants).

To reserve a place, please call our tour operator Arrangements Abroad at 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944 or email them at trips@arrangementsabroad.com. Travel with CAU in January 2025 on this memorable journey into the heart of Cuba to discover the diversity and creativity of its people.

Warmly,
CAU (Cornell’s Adult University)
Alumni Affairs



Activity Level:



Pace Level:



Visit Arrangements Abroad’s website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels [here](#).

While Cornell is pleased to facilitate travel opportunities for its alumni and friends with tour operators that specialize in high-quality educational travel, please be aware that Cornell does not conduct, manage, or operate these travel experiences, or act as an agent for travelers interested in tours. Tour operators and travelers are responsible for making their own safety decisions concerning this travel, and, as a facilitator between travelers and the tour operators with whom travelers make arrangements for completing travel, Cornell’s role and liability are strictly limited. Specific tour operators and national health and safety protocols will apply to each trip, and travelers should review all protocols and trip terms and conditions, including terms and conditions regarding cancellations, refunds, health and safety, and insurance before making a reservation. Cornell is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses, expenses, damages, or injuries resulting from travel.

Cuba: Art, Culture & History In Support of the Cuban People

January 10 – 16, 2025

Plaza de la Catedral, Havana



FRIDAY, JANUARY 10: DEPARTURE / HAVANA, CUBA

Welcome to Havana! Upon your independent arrival at José Martí International Airport, you will be greeted and transferred to **Paseo 206**, your boutique hotel in a quiet, residential neighborhood. Gather this evening for a festive welcome dinner at a *paladar*, a privately owned restaurant usually located in the proprietor's home and largely staffed by family members. D

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11: HAVANA

Founded in 1519, Havana remains the Caribbean's most impressive historical urban center. Participate in a morning lecture and discussion with a local architectural historian, then depart on a walking tour of UNESCO-listed **Old Havana**, including four of its expansive plazas and the 18th-century **Havana Cathedral** (Catedral de San Cristóbal), one of the oldest cathedrals in the Americas.

Following a delightful lunch at a *paladar*, take a private tour of the magnificently restored **Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso**, the home of the Cuban National Ballet. Later, venture into private homes and studios of artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings.

Gather for a rooftop dinner at **El Cocinero**, a former cooking oil factory transformed into a chic restaurant and bar with delicious food and world-class daiquiris. Next door, join a curator for a private tour of what *Time* magazine calls one of "the world's greatest places," the **Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC)**, a spellbinding, multilevel

cultural space that defies categorization. Is it a performance venue? An art gallery? It's both and so much more. You'll have an exclusive look at its spectacular exhibits and installations with an opportunity to purchase artwork. B,L,D

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12: HAVANA / VIÑALES / HAVANA

Today, venture outside of Havana to the western province of **Pinar del Río**, known for its lush tobacco *haciendas* and the Viñales Valley's UNESCO-recognized *mogotes*, distinctive hills towering as high as 1,000 feet, with steep, almost vertical sides.

Meet with a local farmer for a private tour of a tobacco hacienda and enjoy an engaging private demonstration of the drying and rolling processes. Then transfer to lunch at a privately-owned organic farm with a lovely scenic view.

Before returning to Havana, **visit the studio of a local painter** who has charted the history of his community through his work. Then enjoy dinner on your own. B,L

MONDAY, JANUARY 13: HAVANA

An independent curator will guide you on a private morning tour of the **Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana** (National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana), Cuba's largest museum. Encounter the complex, colorful works of the country's leading modern and contemporary

Viñales Valley, Pinar del Río





WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15: HAVANA

Delight in a behind-the-scenes morning rehearsal of the **Rosario Cárdenas Dance Company**, featuring some of Cuba's most gifted contemporary dancers. Afterwards, you will have an opportunity to chat with the performers.

Following lunch on your own, visit a family-owned classic car workshop, **Nostalgicar**. At this garage where some of the city's finest vintage cars are repaired and refurbished, the proprietor will talk about how he started the business and the challenges of acquiring parts.

This evening, explore the renowned 1930 **Hotel Nacional de Cuba**, designed by the acclaimed New York architecture firm McKim, Mead & White. Stop in its storied Hall of Fame to see tributes to its many famous guests, including Buster Keaton, Rita Hayworth, Nat King Cole, Sir Winston Churchill, Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, and Gabriel García Márquez. Enjoy a *mojito* on a terrace overlooking Havana's harbor, then gather for our festive farewell dinner at one of Havana's excellent *paladares*. B,D

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16: HAVANA / RETURN

Transfer from the hotel this morning for the flight home. B

DISCLAIMER: *The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Cornell's Adult University and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.*

artists, including Raúl Martínez, known as Cuba's answer to Andy Warhol; and the revered Afro-Cuban surrealist Wilfredo Lam, whose abstract, geometrical imagery was influenced by Picasso.

After lunch, walk down **Calle Obispo**, Havana's main shopping street, and explore **Dador**, a privately owned fashion boutique. Speak to one of the owners about the challenges and advantages of operating a small private business in Cuba.

Then **join a former ambassador and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs** for an eye-opening discussion. In the early evening, drive to **The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba**, one of only a few Cuban NGOs, for a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation's President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace, where guests will include local Cuban artists. Later you may opt to attend a performance at one of Havana's famed music venues, such as the legendary Tropicana. B,L,R,D

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14: HAVANA / SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA / HAVANA

Head outside the capital to the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula for a visit to **Finca Vigía (Lookout Farm)**, the house where Ernest Hemingway lived for 20 years. He wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Old Man and the Sea* in its breezy rooms and shady porticos. View the rooms through open windows from the surrounding terraces and see Hemingway's famous fishing boat *Pilar* on the property.

After lunch, return to Havana. In the early evening, attend a private after-hours tour at the **Museo Nacional de la Cerámica Contemporánea Cubana (Ceramics Museum)**, followed by dinner at a local *paladar*. B,L,D



ACCOMMODATIONS

PASEO 206

A member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World collection, this boutique hotel is a romantic jewel nestled among the tree-lined streets of Vedado, the economic and cultural heart of La Havana. This family home dating back to 1933 has undergone a careful restoration that has preserved the original architectural elements. The cozy and comfortable rooms and suites all offer free Wi-Fi, 24-hour room service, Hermès bathroom amenities, Marshall speakers, and hypoallergenic king-sized beds with luxurious Frette linens.



Paseo 206



Old Havana, Havana



Restaurant, Paseo 206

PROGRAM RATES

\$5,999 per person, double rate in Cozy Room
\$7,399 single rate in Cozy Room

\$6,999 per person, double rate in Junior Room
\$9,699 single rate in Junior Room

\$8,199 per person, double rate in Master Suite
\$11,199 single rate in Master Suite

\$8,899 per person, double rate in Rooftop Suite
\$11,899 single rate in Rooftop Suite

RATES INCLUDE

- Six nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport transfers for all travelers
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES: International airfare; Cuban visa; Cuban Departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; travel insurance; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



CORNELL'S ADULT UNIVERSITY
CUBA: ART, CULTURE & HISTORY
IN SUPPORT OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE • JANUARY 10 – 16, 2025
RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; email: trips@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (home) _____ (business) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single
 I wish to share a room with _____

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad) Debit card Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code _____ Expiration date _____

I/We will be traveling to Cuba and agree to fully participate in this program under the general license category of travel "In Support of the Cuban People." I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Signature (required) _____ Date _____