Mission to Cuba
TEMPLE BETH AM
March 27 – April 3, 2017
La Habana, Cienfuegos, Trinidad de Cuba

Join Rabbi Adam Kligfeld, your fellow members, family, and friends on this insightful trip of cultural discovery and humanitarian effort. We will have experiences offered to few travelers to this tropical island nation. You will make a difference in the lives of our Cuban brothers and sisters.

And you will experience Cuba
Cuban culture’s vibrancy and vitality is alive.
Cuba is old, some of it is destroyed, and it feels as though time has stopped. But it is full of life from the aroma of cooking food, to the warmth of the people, to the rhythm in the way people move, to the sound of music in the air.

Cuba is changing Rapidly; Now is the Time!

¡Experience Cuba the Right Way!
Mission package includes:

- 8 days, 7 nights in Cuba
- Experienced driver; modern A/C bus with W.C.
- Professional English speaking Cuban guide specialized in Jewish Heritage missions
- Tips to wait staff at included meals
- Cuban Medical insurance
- Meetings with leaders and members of the Cuban Jewish Community
- Guided tour of largest Jewish Cemetery in Cuba
- Presentation, Power Point and Q&A with noted Cuban historian on the Jews of Cuba
- Guided visit to the Bellas Artes museum by museum curator and member of the Jewish Community of Havana
- Participation at the rehearsal of the newest dance troupe in Cuba whose styles reflect salsa, flamenco, modern, African and ballet.
- Guided tour of the Museum of the Revolution – To understand Cuba is to understand the revolution
- Private choral performance
- Cigar factory tour
- Entrance fees to museums and sites of interest as per itinerary
- Bottled water on the bus
- Tips to porters
- US Religious License for Travel to Cuba
- Gratuity to guide and driver
- Round trip Air Miami/Havana/Miami

**MEALS: 16 meals** - Breakfast: 7  Lunch: 4  Dinner: 5
- Each course to comply with the following dietary rules.
  - No meat or meat and/or chicken stock in food preparation
  - No shell fish or stock containing shell fish
  - Cheeses allowed
  - A fish or pasta dish will be available upon request at each meal

Erev Shabbat dinner will be with the Community
HOTELS *(subject to availability)*

**Hotel Capri** – 4 star – 5 nights

*We have ONLY 15 rooms confirmed*

Frommer’s Review - The hotel Capri has just completed an extensive renovation which has maintained the feel and décor of the 50’s with all modern conveniences. Ideally located near “La Rampa” one of the more interesting areas of Havana and just down the street from the Nacional Hotel. It has had a famous past - owned by mobster **Santo Trafficante, Jr.** of Tampa, Florida, the hotel/casino was operated by Nicholas Di Costanzo racketeer Charles Turin (aliases: Charles Tourine, Charley "The Blade") and Santino Masselli of the Bronx NY (aliases: "Sonny the Butcher"). After it opened, **George Raft** was hired to be the public front for the hotel's club during his gangster days in Cuba. It was believed that he owned a considerable interest in the club. The hotel was designed by architect Jose Canaves and owned by the Canaves family. The hotel, along with its famous casino, was leased to American hotelier, "Skip" Shephard. Roof top pool, bar and restaurants.

**Hotel Jagua** – boutique hotel on the bay in Cienfuegos – 2 nights

*We have ONLY 15 rooms confirmed*

Frommer’s Review - The seven-story hotel is located out on the end of Punta Gorda, just across from the Palacio del Valle. The modern rooms are spacious, comfortable, cool, and bright, with a large sliding-glass door to let in light, white tile floors, and plenty of amenities. Those on the higher floors of the main building offer wonderful views over the city and harbor from private balconies. There's a large rectangular pool at the center of this complex, and a popular bar located on a small floating dock in the bay.
NOT Included in mission package:
- Transportation to/from Cuba
  
  Note/ There is an Alaska Airlines flight LAX/HAVANA (Flights also now depart from other US cities – please talk to your travel agent)

  LAX/HAV
  March 27 / departs 9 am. arrives 5 pm / local times

  HAV/LAX
  April 3/ departs 6pm. arrives 9pm /local times

  Cost appears to be $565 plus Cuban visa

  You will be informed shortly after the deposit deadline of December 15th as to whether the mission is a go. Please act quickly to book your flight to Cuba.
  
  - Cancellation insurance – See registration forms
  - Airline baggage charges
  - Cuban Tourist Visa – must get from airline

Tzedakah / to be discussed
- A voluntary donation of $50 per participant is requested which will be to be distributed to the synagogues and Jewish Communities in Cuba. Please see the registration forms.
- An updated physical donation list will be provided for those wishing to donate in addition to the cash tzedakah.

Price per person HAVANA – Payment by check – Please see registration forms

  Double occupancy = $ 3,440
  Single occupancy = $ 4,325

DEADLINES:
Deposit/ Registration: December 15, 2016 – Deposit is $ 300 per person - no refund of your deposit after that date. Your deposit is fully refundable if written cancellation is received by World Passage Ltd. before that date, and is refundable if mission participation does not meet the minimum number of 15 registered participants.

Balance Payment: February 22, 2017 – no refund of your balance payment after that date. Your balance payment is fully refundable if written cancellation is received by World Passage Ltd. before that date, and is
refundable if mission participation does not meet the minimum number of 15 registered participants.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We have only 15 rooms confirmed at the hotels. Participation is based on the date completed forms are received by World Passage Ltd.

World Passage Ltd is our mission coordinator. The company has been involved in travel to Cuba for 18 years and is the oldest tour operator of Jewish missions to Cuba - [worldpassage@comcast.net](mailto:worldpassage@comcast.net)

**IMPORTANT PASSPORT INFORMATION** – to participate in the mission your passport must be valid for at least six months after the mission’s arrival to Cuba on March 27, 2017. IMPORTANT: you must travel with the valid passport that you submitted for registration or your Cuban visa will be void.

**A GREAT MITZVAH – A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE – A FUN TRIP**

**Mission Itinerary**
**Subject to Change**
**Meals:** B = breakfast; L= lunch; D= dinner

During your visit these Optional non included activities are available:

- Visit to private art galleries – for serious art collectors – limit 10 persons
- Rum tasting with cigar – fee
- Salsa lesson – by noted professional performer - fee

- **Day 1** – Monday – *(Included meals: D)* – Havana
  - Flight to Havana /not included in price
  - Meet and greet by our English speaking guide at Havana Airport or Hotel Capri Lobby
  - Presentation and Q&A with Cuban historian on the History of the Jews of Cuba
  - Welcome dinner on the roof top of your hotel - The Capri

**Day 2** – Tuesday - *(B, L)* Havana
- Participation at the rehearsal of the newest dance troupe in Cuba whose styles reflect salsa, flamenco, modern, African and ballet. Q&A to follow.
• Guided walking tour of Old Havana – Havana was so important to the Spanish Empire that in order to obtain its return after its capture by the British they gave them all of Florida
• Lunch in old Havana (included meal)
• Visit to the Patronato – the largest Conservative synagogue in Havana
• Visit to the pharmacy of the Patronato – which provides free medicines not only to the Jewish Cuban Community but to any Cuban with a prescription
• Dinner and Evening at your leisure to enjoy the many private restaurants (Paladares) and night life of Havana. Your guide will assist you with your selection

Day 3 – Wednesday – (B, L, D) Havana - Cienfuegos
• Departure for town of Cienfuegos in Central Cuba
• Light lunch (included meal)
• Time to visit Cienfuegos including the Teatro Tomas Terry built in the late 1800’s by the sons of Sr. Tomas who had made his fortune in sugar and slaves. It hosted Enrico Caruso, Anna Pavlova and Sarah Bernhardt among others.
• Meeting with the small Jewish Community at the home of one of its members
• Visit to local young artists’ gallery founded by the son of the leader of the Jewish Community of Cienfuegos and his friends
• Private choral performance – Cienfuegos is famous for its choral groups
• Dinner at El Palacio del Valle (included meal). The former home of a sugar baron from Andalusia – his home reflects his love of the Alhambra

Day 4 – Thursday – (B, D) Cienfuegos – Trinidad - Cienfuegos
• Visit to Trinidad de Cuba. A UNESCO world heritage site - an 18th century town where little has changed
• Visit to the former home of the richest family of the 19th century - “sugar” town
• Guided visit to the Palacio Cantero – the 18th century home of one of the richest sugar barons of the region
• Visit to State run At Risk pregnancy clinic / a unique insight into the Cuban healthcare system
• Lunch at your leisure with free time to explore this colonial city
• Optional non included activity: Sunset cruise on the bay – open bar
• Dinner at our hotel at a time of your choosing (included meal)

Day 5 – Friday – (B, D) Cienfuegos - Havana
• Guanabacoa, a suburb of Havana, tour of the Jewish cemetery. Visit to the first Holocaust Memorial in Western hemisphere
• Visit to Hemingway’s home in Cuba – La Finca Vigia – just as he left it. He said of Cuba that “it was the best place in the world to write”. Many of his classics including “The Old Man and the Sea” were written here
• Return to the hotel time for lunch ( not included) and to enjoy the hotels pool
• Erev Shabbat Services at the Patronato
• After services, you will eat as a group at the Patronato with the Community (included meal)

Day 6 – Saturday – (B) Havana
• Your day at leisure.
• Services are available at the Patronato and at the Sephardic center
• Lunch and dinner at your leisure
• Optional Non Included Activity – 8 pm - a performance at the National Theatre. You guide will inform you as to the performance upon your arrival. If a performance of merit he/she will reserve orchestra seats. Estimated cost: $40 per person

Day 7 – Sunday – (B, L, D) Havana
• Guided visit to the Museo de la Revolucion – you have spent a week seeing the reality - now for the “theory” of the Revolucion.
• Visit to studio/home of Fuster – the Picasso of Cuba – his studio and neighborhood are unique
• Lunch (included meal)
• Guided tour of Museo Bellas Artes – the history of Cuba through its art – led by museum curator and member of the Jewish Community
• Farmer’s Market to see where Cuban’s buy and a bit of private enterprise in Cuba
• Farewell Dinner at Café Oriente (included meal)
• Optional non included activity: Tropicana – a Cuban tradition since the 30’s

Day 8 – Monday – (B, L) – Havana - Miami
• Cigar factory tour
• A couple of surprise stops
• Lunch (included meal) at a restaurant overlooking the bay and city of La Habana
• Transfer to Havana airport
• Flight to USA.

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Experience Cuba the Right Way
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