CUBA BY SEA

HISTORY, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY LIFE

March 24 to April 3, 2018
Stanford Travel/Study has conducted more than 30 educational trips to Cuba over the past 19 years, and we have experienced firsthand what a remarkable destination it is. With shifts in policy and relations between the U.S. and Cuba, now is the perfect time to travel to and learn about this fascinating—and complex—nation. And there’s no better way to explore the island than by sea, aboard the elegant three-masted ship, *Le Ponant*. A Stanford traveler favorite, *Le Ponant* provides the perfect vantage point from which to explore the virtually untouched coastlines and bays of this island nation while still giving us easy access to the people, cities and sights that make this country so extraordinary. Join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

**Highlights**

**MEET** with Cubans from all walks of life: artists, students, teachers, musicians, doctors, entrepreneurs, farmers and others.

**LEARN** of Cuba’s tumultuous and complex history through visits to important historical sites and lectures by our own faculty, special guides and guest speakers.

**SPEND** two nights in Havana and explore this dynamic city’s cobblestoned plazas, baroque architecture and historic monuments.
HÉCTOR HOYOS is an associate professor of Iberian and Latin American cultures at Stanford University. He holds a PhD in romance studies from Cornell University and degrees in philosophy and literature from Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá. His book, Beyond Bolaño: The Global Latin American Novel (Columbia University Press, 2015), examines post-1989 Latin American novels of globalization and their relevance to world literature. He received an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for his work on new materialism in Latin America. During this program, Professor Hoyos will explore some of the many facets of Cuban culture, including music, poetry and the visual arts.

— Chair, materia, a multidisciplinary forum on Latin American and comparative post-anthropocentrisms, Stanford University, 2014–2017
— Faculty in residence, Bing Overseas Studies Program, Stanford Campus, Santiago de Chile, 2011 and 2016
— Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, 2012–2013
— Delegate assembly representative, Division Executive Committee on 20th-century Latin American Literature, Modern Language Association, 2012–2016
— Board member and former secretary, Asociación de Colombianistas

“Héctor was really first-rate—very informed and passionate about the subjects on which he lectured.”

JAMES L. AUSTIN JR., ’72, CUBA SEMINAR, 2016

SIGN UP ONLINE: alumni.stanford.edu/trip?cuba2018
OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
Itinerary

SATURDAY, MARCH 24
HOME / MIAMI, FLORIDA, U.S.
Arrive in Miami independently and check in to our hotel. Join fellow travelers for an orientation at our hotel this evening. CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL MIAMI AIRPORT

SUNDAY, MARCH 25
MIAMI / HOLGUÍN, CUBA / SANTIAGO DE CUBA / EMBARK
Transfer to the Miami Airport for our flight to Holguín. Upon arrival, drive to Santiago de Cuba to embark our beautiful sailing ship, Le Ponant. Attend a briefing followed by a welcome reception and dinner onboard this evening. Our ship remains in port overnight. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

MONDAY, MARCH 26
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Founded in 1515 at the head of a spacious bay surrounded by mountains, Santiago de Cuba, Cuba’s second-largest city, is also one of its oldest. Its eclectic architectural styles range from colonial to art nouveau. Meet with members of the Ateneo de Santiago, an organization of artists who represent different professions within the arts, to discuss Santiago’s thriving arts scene. Continue on a tour of the town, including a visit to Parque Céspedes, where Fidel Castro delivered his victory speech in 1959; Calle Heredia, the Old City’s loveliest street; San Juan Hill and its monuments to the Spanish-American War; and a medical facility where we learn about Cuban health care. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MARCH 27
AT SEA
Spend a relaxing day at sea enjoying lectures and the amenities of our ship as we sail toward Trinidad. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28
TRINIDAD
The crown jewel of Cuba’s colonial towns, Trinidad was founded in 1514 and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site with cobblestoned streets, neoclassical and baroque homes, and buildings with wrought-iron grillwork. Take a walking tour with a city historian to visit some of the city’s plazas and museums. Meet the owner of a private casa particular (bed and breakfast) to learn about this form of Cuban independent business. Trinidad is steeped in religiosity, including Santería and other Afro-Cuban religions, and we’ll explore these belief systems with practitioners. Continue to the Santander Family Ceramics Workshop to meet local artisans before returning to our ship to set sail for Cienfuegos. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 29
CIENFUEGOS / BAY OF PIGS / GRAN PARQUE NATURAL MONTEMAR
Disembark in Cienfuegos, a thriving port since Columbus’ arrival in 1494. Drive to the Bay of Pigs, where we visit the Playa Giron Museum with its displays of artifacts from the failed U.S.-based invasion of Cuba. Visit a community project and an art school to learn about young artists in Cuba from students, teachers and organizers. Meet with park officials and local residents at the magnificent Gran Parque Natural Montemar, Cuba’s largest, most diverse wilderness and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, to learn about Cuba’s efforts to preserve its wildlife. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

NOTE: This itinerary is offered as a licensed people-to-people program in Cuba authorized by the U.S. government and is subject to change pending new regulations from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. The “People-to-People” license stipulates that visitors to Cuba must engage in a full-time schedule of educational exchange activities resulting in meaningful interaction between the visitors and individuals in Cuba. Therefore, participation in all the scheduled activities is required.
FRIDAY, MARCH 30
PUNTA FRANCES, ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD
Today we visit one of the most remote and beautiful beaches in Cuba, where we take advantage of the excellent swimming and snorkeling. The beach, on Isla de la Juventud off Cuba’s southern coastline, is part of Parque Nacional Marino de Punta Frances Punta Pedernales, a marine conservation area established in 1978. We’ll have an opportunity to meet and talk with Cubans concerned with preserving the natural environment and fragile ecosystem of the island. **LE PONANT** *(B,L,D)*

SATURDAY, MARCH 31
AT SEA
Enjoy our final day on the ship at sea as we sail toward Havana. **LE PONANT** *(B,L,D)*

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
HAVANA / DISEMBARK
Disembark this morning in the capital and get acquainted with the city on a walking tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Admire the city’s many squares and busy avenues, including Plaza San Francisco, a stunningly beautiful old square surrounded by buildings dating from the 18th century. Visit the Taller de Grafica Experimental, Havana’s printmaking and lithographic workshop, and meet the artists working there. After lunch, spend some time wandering around Havana’s oldest square, the 16th-century Plaza Vieja, before checking in to our hotel and enjoying dinner at a lovely seaside paladar (privately run restaurant). **GRAN HOTEL MANZANA KEMPINSKI** *(B,L,D)*

MONDAY, APRIL 2
HAVANA
Today attend a private flamenco performance and talk to the group’s director and members about the cultivation of artistic talent in Cuba. Then embark on a walking tour led by local architects that includes such architectural gems as the Bacardi Building, erected in 1930 and one of Cuba’s most impressive examples of art deco architecture. Enjoy a guided tour of the Museum of Cuban Art with local curators before lunch at a paladar. Take some time in the afternoon to explore the many famous sites and landmarks along the Paseo de Martí, commonly called the Paseo del Prado, before our farewell dinner this evening. **GRAN HOTEL MANZANA KEMPINSKI** *(B,L,D)*

TUESDAY, APRIL 3
HAVANA / U.S.
After breakfast at our hotel, transfer to the airport in Havana for independently booked flights home. *(B)*
Le Ponant

*Le Ponant* is a sleek, 290-foot-long, three-masted sailing vessel. Built in 1991 in France and refurbished in 2012, *Le Ponant* has 32 well-appointed cabins positioned mid-ship, all with outside views, queen or twin beds, mini-bar, hi-fi system, individual air conditioning, telephone, bathrobes, and private shower and toilet. The four-deck vessel has ample deck space and is well-served by two restaurants. Breakfast and lunch are enjoyed buffet-style under a canopied deck, while dinner is taken in the attractive dining room. Other facilities include a main lounge, terrace lounge and bar, small library and boutique.

Program Cost*

Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy, as specified.

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<th>CAT.</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with a porthole window and a queen bed or twin beds, 116 to 121 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,595</td>
<td>$17,595</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with porthole windows and a queen bed, 135 to 145 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Cabin on the Antigua Deck with a picture window and a queen bed, 132 to 164 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$13,395</td>
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*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add $300 per person.

**Single accommodations may be limited to as few as 3 cabins.
Trip Information

**DATES**
March 24 to April 3, 2018 (11 days)

**SIZE**
This program can accommodate 51 participants. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

**INCLUDED**
3 nights of best-available hotel accommodations in Miami and Havana • 7-night cruise aboard Le Ponant • 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 9 dinners • Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions • Open bar throughout the cruise, including select wines with lunch and dinner • All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary • Cuban visa fees and departure taxes • Airfare from Miami, Florida, to Holguín, Cuba • Group transfers and baggage handling for flights between the United States and Cuba • Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities • Port fees and embarkation taxes • Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance • Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information • Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

**NOT INCLUDED**
Airfare to Miami, Florida, and from Havana, Cuba, back to the U.S. • Passport fees • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Independent and private transfers • Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Excess-baggage charges • Personal items such as internet access, telephone calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**
You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare between your home city and Miami, Florida, and back home from Havana, Cuba. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we will send you information on when to arrive and depart with your confirmation materials.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
In the last few years, Cuba has undergone many changes and general conditions have improved. However, we ask that you keep in mind that traveling to Cuba is still an adventure. Because of Cuba’s inconsistent infrastructure, we consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Cuba’s tourism industry is still developing, and patience with local service standards is required. Daily activities involve one to two miles of walking on city streets, which can be uneven or cobbled, and climbing stairs without handrails. In many ways, the challenges of this program are part of the learning experience. Our ship, Le Ponant, does not have an elevator onboard. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

**Deposit & Final Payment**
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip/cuba2018 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

**Cancellations & Refunds**
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

**Insurance**
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

**Eligibility**
We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest paid for by a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

**Responsibility**
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses and expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in July 2017 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

**Terms & Conditions**
"This was the perfect way to see Cuba!"

CAREY ROMER, '84, CUBA BY SEA, 2017