

Cuba Bike

Discover this colourful Caribbean Island by bike



Ultimate Challenges

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Cuba Bike

Cycle this spectacular island over 5 days

Cuba is the Caribbean's largest island, only 90 miles from Florida and yet politically and economically it couldn't be further from the USA.

On arrival into Havana, we have the chance to relax and briefly see this amazing city. At the end of the ride we have time to recover from this epic challenge by having a day to explore the extraordinary beauty of Cuba's crumbling capital, Havana.

There will be very little traffic on the roads we bike along and usually you will be sharing the road with the odd 1950's car or perhaps an ox and cart. We pass through small rural communities and towns and really get the chance to get under the skin of Cuba. This challenge is an incredible journey learning about the history of this stunning island.



Detailed itinerary

Day 1: Departure for Havana

We depart London for our flight to Havana, arriving late afternoon. We will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel. We will have a light supper on arrival.

Day 2: Playa Larga to Caleta Buena and transfer to Cienfuegos (43km)

After breakfast, we transfer to the Playa Larga located on the eastern side of the Island. On arrival we have a bike fitting and then begin this incredible challenge by cycling towards The Bay of Pigs. The Playa Giron (Bay of Pigs) is important in Cuba's history; it was the location of the 1962 invasion when a CIA backed attempt to topple Fidel Castro's revolutionary government met with strong resistance and was ultimately unsuccessful. We finish today's ride at Caleta Buena, a really beautiful spot for swimming and lunch. From here we will take a coach transfer to our hotel near Cienfuegos.

Day 3: Cienfuegos to Trinidad (98km)

We set off along an undulating coastal road followed by some short sharp hills through beautiful pasture lands. Today is the toughest day in terms of distance, coupled with high temperatures.

Day 3 cont.

After around 18km we enjoy stunning views of the Escambray Mountains across a valley of sugar cane. The road then sweeps up and over gentle hills and we meet the coast just beyond Guajimico. After 50km on our bike we have a break for lunch. The final 30km is on a flat road which clings to the shimmering Caribbean coastline all the way to Trinidad. There are some hillier sections just before Trinidad. We overnight by the sea at our hotel on the Ancon peninsular.

Day 4: Trinidad to Sancti Spiritus (75km)

We start the day by taking a walking tour of Trinidad, one of Cuba's most famous colonial towns. We then transfer to the city centre where we get on our bikes and set off immediately towards Sancti Spiritus. Today's route undulates past spectacular countryside, passing through the Valle de los Ingenios, a valley famed for its natural beauty. Once an important centre for sugar cane production, this valley still contains ruins of old colonial homes and slave towers. We continue undulating through the countryside and make a stop for a picnic lunch along the way.

Day 4 cont.

On arrival in the outskirts we regroup to cross the city together before arriving at our hotel.

Day 5: Sancti Spiritus to Santa Clara (86km)

Today we follow the Carretera Central, originally the only road which connected Havana to Santiago and went the length of the island. The road is pleasant as it passes through sugar cane, small rural towns with plenty of undulations. We cycle along the valley floor between impressive mountains before reaching the foothills and pastures around Santa Clara. Santa Clara is a vibrant city, busy with street life. It was the first major place to be liberated from Batista's army in December 1958. One hour transfer to Hanabanilla, where we stay tonight.



Detailed itinerary

Day 6: Hanabanilla to Cienfuegos (60km)

Today starts with a long descent through traditional Cuban villages. The route then becomes gradually undulating as we pass through orange and mango groves taking in the stunning countryside. The final stretch takes us straight through the colonial heart of the beautiful Caribbean town, Cienfuegos, and onto the Malecon (sea front). From there we will enjoy the panoramic views across the Bay of Cienfuegos, our final destination. After a celebratory cocktail and lunch overlooking the sea we say goodbye to our bikes. From here it is a 3 hour transfer to Havana.

Day 7: Havana

Today is a rest day and there will be free time to explore Havana. There will also be an optional sightseeing tour by foot. This evening we will enjoy a well deserved celebration dinner.

Day 9: Havana: London

Free morning to relax before we board our flight back to the UK.

Day 10: Arrive in London, UK

Challenge grade

Moderate - tough

Best time of year

November to March

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change



Why choose Ultimate Challenges?

- We have over 18 years experience running pioneering charity challenges e.g. Kilimanjaro , the Inca Trail, California Bike
- We choose the most unexplored and upcoming regions for our amazing expeditions
- We are built on a team of Senior Event Fundraisers
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- We use the best ground agents, the most experienced trek staff and doctors to ensure your supporters have a safe and memorable challenge
- We operate an Ethical Code of Conduct with all our ground handlers to ensure fair treatment of all our local staff. We have high health and safety expectations and all our partnerships are conducted with respect for local cultures and environmental concerns
- We offer an end-to-end service to ensure our charity partners are given full support from our experienced staff ensuring you maximise your income

Our pricing policy

We believe that we are very competitive and offer excellent value for money. However, it can be confusing when comparing prices, as small alterations in an itinerary, can make a substantial difference. We would be happy to review proposals you may have received from other tour operators, as we are confident that we can beat any genuine quote.

‘ Choose your Tour Operator with your head, so your supporters can follow their hearts when they travel’



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