



BIRD WATCHING AROUND CUBA

DAY 1

Hotel Comodoro ****

Upon arrival in Havana you will meet your English-speaking guide. You will have a drive to the city where you will check-in at Hotel Comodoro and stay in bungalows. Dinner will be served at the hotel.



Hotel Comodoro

DAY 2

Hotel Soroa ***

Breakfast will be had at the hotel after which will be checkout. There will be a morning walk to the National Museum of Natural History to meet our Cuban Ornithologist and the museums curator, who will give a brief overview of the program and show the museums collection. You will have your first chance to go bird watching in the National Botanic Gardens. After you will have lunch at Cuba's first organic vegetarian restaurant (El Bambu), followed by a trip west to the Sierra de la Rosario Biosphere Reserve. Accommodations for the night will be at Villa Soroa where you will have dinner.

DAY 3

Hotel Mirador San Diego ***

After the breakfast at the hotel you will have an early morning walk along Loma Mirador. This is a hillside trail with great bird watching opportunities, and an excellent view from the top of Cuba's western mountains and southern coast. Lunch will be had at nearby Cafetal Buena Vista or Casa del Campesino. There will be an afternoon drive to San Diego de los Banos where you will be able to have dinner and your accommodations for the night at Hotel Mirador San Diego.

DAY 4

Hotel Playa Larga ***



Before going bird watching in the morning you will have breakfast at the hotel. The birds will be seen at La Guira National Park, one of western Cuba's most important bird sanctuaries. This will provide the best opportunity for you to see a Cuban Solitaire, Olive-capped Warblers and possibly a Gundlach's Hawk. After lunch we will drive to the Zapata Peninsula a trip that will take about 3 hours. Dinner and accommodations for the night will be at Villa Playa Larga.

DAY 5***Hotel Playa Larga ******

Breakfast will be offered at the hotel. In the small village of Bermejas and its surroundings you will be able to enjoy a morning of bird watching. You will have lunch at Cueva de los Peces after which you will return to the hotel and later on have dinner.

DAY 6***Hotel Playa Larga ******

The included breakfast will be at the hotel in the morning. This morning you will take a boat ride on the canal that leads to the Rio Hatiguanico. Lunch will be at Fiesta Campesina near Australia. After you will be able to take a siesta at the hotel. The afternoon bird watching will be determined based on group interest and field leader recommendation. Dinner will be served at Playa Larga.

DAY 7***Hotel Playa Larga ******

Day 7 starts with an early breakfast, then checkout and a morning walk into the swamp at La Turba. Lunch will be at La Boca Restaurant. Afternoon bird watching will be at Las Salinas Wildlife Refuge. After you will return to the hotel and have dinner.

Cuban Tody

DAY 8***Hotel Colon ******

Breakfast will be at the hotel. Morning bird watching to be determined based on group interest and field leader recommendation. Box lunch will be packed and you will depart for Camaguey, which is over a 5-hour trip. Dinner and accommodations will be at the nicely refurbished vintage Hotel Colon.

DAY 9***Hotel Colon ******

After an early breakfast and you will have a drive to La Belen Reserve near Najasa. Lunch is at a ranch within the reserve, followed by a return to Camaguey for free afternoon, dinner (in Camaguey city) and accommodations.

DAY 10***Hotel Sol Cayo Coco *******

Breakfast will be at the hotel. You'll have an early departure north to the Sierra Cubitas Mountains. Bird watching will be on preserved trails with a local guide from Camaguey (Osmany Ramos Torres). After you'll depart westward, with a possible bird watching stop at a large lake

near the town of Moron. You will continue to Cayo Coco where you will have accommodations and dinner at Sol Cayo Coco.

DAY 11-12

Hotel Sol Cayo Coco ****

You'll have two full days to explore coastal region of Cayo Coco. You will be going to Cayo Coco and Cayo Guillermo with bird watching sessions with the local guide in the mornings and afternoons. Dinner both nights will be at the hotel.

DAY 13

Hotel Comodoro ****

You will have bird watching in the morning at Cayo Paredón Grande. In the late afternoon you will be taken to Cayo Coco Airport for flight to Havana. After you arrive you will transfer to the Hotel Comodoro where you will have dinner and accommodations in a bungalow.

DAY 14

Hotel Comodoro ****

After breakfast you will have a city tour of Havana then have the rest of the day to do with as you wish. Dinner will be served at the hotel.

DAY 15

Departure

After breakfast you will be transferred to Havana International Airport for your flight home.

Included:

- Transfers to and from airport to/from hotels
- Flight air tickets from *Cayo Coco to Havana*
- Tour Guide
- A/C coach
- 3-nights accommodation in a bungalow at *Hotel Comodoro ***** (MAP)
- 1-night accommodation at *Soroa Hotel **** (MAP)
- 1-night accommodation at *Mirador de San Diego Hotel **** (MAP)
- 4-nights accommodation at *Playa Larga Hotel **** (MAP)
- 2-nights accommodation at *Colón Hotel **** (MAP)
- 3-nights accommodation at *Sol Cayo Coco Hotel ***** (MAP)
- Lunch as per Itinerary
- 500ml of bottled water with each meal plus another 500ml of bottled water for day walk
- Excursions as per itinerary
- Visit to the National Museum of Natural History
- Havana City Tour

Not Included:

- Air / Taxes
- Cuban Tourist Card (\$20CAD)
- Cuban Departure Exit Tax paid locally (25.00CUC Cash)
- Gratuities / Expenses / Personal Insurance
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Pricing:

- E-mail at info@designtravel.ca or by phone at (416) 235-1212.

Note:

- Duration: 15 days / 14 nights

Meal Plan Coding:

- MAP – breakfast & dinner

Links:

Optional Excursions

www.designtravel.ca/services/servicesworld/excursions/excursions.html

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