

CUBA

Rhythm and Views
A CULTURAL EXPLORATION LIKE NO OTHER!

Behind the Veil with Emmet Cohen

*One of the Great Jazz
Masters of Our Time!*

**February 4-9, 2026
February 11-16, 2026**



Join Emmet Cohen for Insider Access to Cuba's Vibrant Arts Scene

Cuba Rhythm and Views is honored to present Emmet Cohen's encore appearance in Cuba. This curated journey into Havana's enduring creative arts, culture, people, and vibrant nightlife will feature the Emmet Cohen Trio along with Cuba's most revered musicians. Delegates will be dining in Havana's world-renowned privately-owned *paladares* and stay in the finest hotel, Iberostar Marqués de la Torre.

Cuba Rhythm and Views' business model from Day One has always been in support of the Cuban people. For us, it is about the art. We view ourselves as cultural ambassadors creating bonafide dialogue and understanding between our peoples. Thankfully there are hundreds of our CR&V alumni scattered

throughout the country who feel the same way. From classical music to jazz, dance and the visual arts, CR&V reveals the challenging reality of the arts in Cuba that is remarkably different from anywhere else in the world.

We have witnessed the glimpse of hope that came with the political rapprochement in 2014, only to have it rolled back five years later. As the diplomatic relationship between the United States and the Republic of Cuba continues to degrade after more than six decades of embargo, our cultural and educational exchanges are among the few legal opportunities remaining for Americans to visit Cuba.

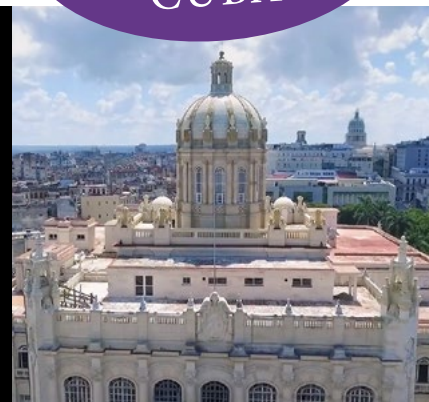
**LEGAL
TRAVEL TO
CUBA**

Week 1: February 4-9, 2026 (travel to Miami on your own February 3)

Week 2: February 11-16, 2026 (travel to Miami on your own February 10)

Double Occupancy per person \$5,500

Single Occupancy surcharge: \$650



PRICE INCLUDES

- One night at Miami International Airport Hotel
- 5 nights in Havana's most prestigious hotel, Iberostar Marqués de la Torre
- 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare between Miami and Havana
- All land transportation via luxury coach
- A different private performance most days with Cuba's most celebrated performers from all genres
- All activities and events include admissions and ground transportation
- Baggage transfers and handling at airport and hotel arrival and departure
- Cuban visa fees, departure tax, and medical insurance while in Cuba

NOT INCLUDED

- U.S. domestic airfare and passport
- 3 dinners and 2 lunches so you may explore local dining options
- Independent and private transfer for activities not on the itinerary
- Any baggage charges or fees
- Trip cancellation insurance (strongly recommended)
- Personal items such as telephone services, cigars, laundry
- While in Cuba, we will collect \$200 from each traveler to cover tips for all program activities

ELIGIBILITY

To secure your space, please make your refundable deposit here. cubarhythmviews.com/reserve/
Priority will be based on the order in which we receive deposits. Upon receiving your deposit, we will send you an application.



MEET YOUR CULTURAL ENVOY

Emmet Cohen



Dear Friends,

I've spent time reflecting on our recent trip to Cuba, and can wholeheartedly say, the experience was beyond anything I imagined! The vibrant energy, passionate artistry and sheer joy of the Cuban people is not just something to observe, it's deeply palpable. The spirit of this special island nation is infectious and inspirational, and everyone on the trip left feeling changed and affected, with a piece of Cuba in their heart.

We're thrilled to announce what will be another unforgettable journey, immersing ourselves in the soul of Cuba. Having navigated the island's unique rhythm and formed meaningful connections, we're eager to share another profound and authentic experience with you. We'll venture beyond the usual tourist paths and connect directly with the vibrant pulse of Cuban culture.

Imagine: intimate gatherings with incredible musicians, visual artists, and dancers in Havana's hidden gems. This isn't just a trip; it's an opportunity to experience the brilliance and resilience of Cuban artistry firsthand. Your participation will directly benefit our efforts to empower these people and share their work with the world.

Based on the truly unique nature of the trip, we anticipate spots will fill up quickly, so we encourage you to make your reservation as soon as possible. Bassist Reuben Rogers, drummer Joe Farnsworth, and I can't wait for you to join us! Get ready to be amazed—Cuba awaits!

With much excitement and gratitude,

Emmet



Multifaceted American jazz pianist and composer Emmet Cohen is one of his generation's pivotal figures in music and the related arts. Leader of the Emmet Cohen Trio and creator of the Masters Legacy Series, he is an internationally acclaimed jazz artist, a dedicated educator, the winner of the 2019 American Pianists Awards, and a finalist in the 2011 Thelonious Monk International Piano Competition. Cohen headlines regularly at Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Village Vanguard, and Birdland, and has appeared at the Newport, Monterey, and North Sea jazz festivals. His artistry has taken him to venues and festivals in over 30 countries. Cohen's entrepreneurial energies led to his developing "Live From Emmet's Place," a live-streamed "Harlem rent party" that unites a worldwide audience via tens of millions of internet views. Cohen has released over ten albums as leader and has performed or recorded with Ron Carter, Benny Golson, Jimmy Cobb, George Coleman, Jimmy Heath, Tootie Heath, Houston Person, Christian McBride, and Kurt Elling.

For more about Emmet, visit emmetcohen.com.

Visit www.CubaRhythmAndViews.com for info, reservations, video and FAQs

CUBA
Rhythm and Views

Neil Birnbaum

WHY CHOOSE CUBA RHYTHM AND VIEWS?

This trip is different from all the others. Our delegations uniquely blend full legal compliance with all US Government requirements with distinctive and insightful experiences in exclusive and intimate performance spaces not generally accessible to Americans. This trip includes the finest hotel and private restaurants (*paladares*), in addition to offering up close and personal experiences with Cuba's most revered musicians, dancers, visual artists, and social activists. Our group size is limited to ensure that your experience is unique and memorable.

This is the only legal trip to Cuba designed for passionate lovers of music, dance and the visual arts and Cuba has some of the best in the world. CR&V has taken hundreds of people to Cuba since 2013 and their testimonials speak for themselves.

Your host, veteran musician and symphony orchestra executive Neil Birnbaum, has more than thirty-five years of experience producing the world's finest music and artists. Since 2011, Neil has been exploring Cuba's creative arts, curating major cultural exchanges, and building cultural bridges that help support the Cuban people.

CR&V is dedicated to offering the highest attainable artistic excellence and a truly distinctive experience. Delegates will be exposed to Cuba's world-renowned jazz and nightlife along with performances of classical dance and music. We will meet with individual artists of all genres as well as representatives of private performing arts organizations to strengthen civil society in Cuba. From grand theaters to intimate salons, travelers will have access to some of Cuba's most revered musicians and artists. The authentic Cuba will always reveal itself to the insightful and inquiring mind. The result is a cultural exploration that has become the benchmark for legal travel to this remarkable and isolated nation.

info@CubaRhythmandViews.org



SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

IMMERSE yourself in intimate and private performances and experiences curated exclusively for your delegation.

STROLL the 500 year-old streets and historic plazas of Old Havana and be inspired by the resilience of the Cuban people.

DISCOVER the authentic history of US/Cuban relations and foreign policy from political experts and former diplomats.

DINE in Havana's internationally-celebrated *paladares* and taste the success of Cuba's only private sector experiment.

EMBRACE the infectious vibrancy of nightlife of Havana's clubs and cafes.

LISTEN to the Afro-Cuban beat of the Cuban culture everywhere you go.

UNDERSTAND why CR&V's arts and culture exchange programs are so critical to the future of US/Cuban political dialogue.

MINGLE with the performers, academics and artists at special post-concert receptions and private dinners.

ENJOY a walk along the historic Malecón seawall just steps away from your hotel.

Iberostar Marqués de la Torre

Get a start on daily life in Havana from this 5-star hotel, boasting 360° panoramic city views and just steps away from everything: the historic center, iconic monuments, captivating museums, traditional restaurants, emblematic bars and classic vintage cars. After a busy day in Havana, this is the place to relax, have a cold drink, check your email with available Wi-Fi and be inspired by Havana coming to life after dark.



A Double Dose of Musical Brilliance

Known for his technical mastery, expressiveness, and deep appreciation for the roots of jazz, acclaimed American pianist Emmet Cohen returns to the Cuban scene with his dynamic rhythm section. Prepare to be captivated by an electrifying performance by the Emmet Cohen Trio, featuring special guest appearances by exceptional Cuban jazz musicians, offering a unique blend of styles for an unforgettable evening where the souls of American and Cuban jazz beautifully intertwine.

Beyond this extraordinary collaboration, another breathtaking musical experience awaits as the Emmet Cohen Trio takes the stage with the renowned Havana Chamber Orchestra, under the masterful direction of Daiana García. Building on their previous success, this encore presentation promises a truly singular musical immersion, culminating in a magnificent fusion with classical sounds that will resonate in your heart long after the final note has been played.

Classical Music and Dance

In Cuba the classical arts are revered by every walk of life. During this trip patrons will experience performances by such renowned groups as Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional, Ballet Nacional de Cuba, Ballet Español de Cuba, Ballet Lizt Alfonso, Danza Contemporánea de Cuba, Orquesta de Cámara de La Habana and much more. Events will include opportunities to attend private rehearsals as well as performances and mingle with the performers in intimate settings.

Traditional Cuban Music

Traditional music and its evolution over the centuries is at the heart of the Cuban soul and mystique. The history of Cuban music is the story of its people—from slavery, political upheaval, revolt and a joyful celebration of Cuban cultural life.



Emmet Cohen Trio



Ballet Lizt Alfonso



Orquesta de Cámara de La Habana



Ballet Español de Cuba



Arts Education

Cuba is committed to arts education from primary school to the university level. The flourishing music, dance and arts scene provides a solid foundation in the training students receive at the prestigious arts schools throughout the country. To see firsthand how artists and musicians are cultivated, we will visit both Conservatorio Amadeo Roldán and Ballet Lizt Alfonso where you will experience Cuba's arts education system with private performances by students. In addition, you will have the opportunity to communicate with the students and their teachers in a round table discussion that will enlighten you on Cuba's robust arts education.

Cuban Jazz and Nightlife

In Havana, jazz thrives. Our patrons are not only immersed into Havana's jazz nightlife, but will be treated to private, one-on-one concerts from the best and brightest of Cuba's jazz elite. This unique exposure to one the world's most active jazz scenes is a CR&V exclusive. You will better understand the day-to-day sacrifices as well as the financial and artistic challenges, including the difficulty of buying and maintaining instruments in Cuba.

Architecture and Historic Preservation

Some of the most exquisite historic buildings in the Caribbean are in Cuba. Havana celebrated its 500th anniversary in 2019. Despite 60+ years of embargo, Cuba has managed to preserve and restore some of its most important heritage structures, neighborhoods and monuments. Using tourist dollars and financial incentives, much of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is gradually being rehabilitated to its former beauty. Our patrons will gain an insight into what it takes to gradually restore one of the New World's great cities, one building at a time.



Emmet Cohen Trio in Concert



Grupo WOW



Conservatorio Amadeo Roldán



Visual Arts

As part of our cultural exchange, our patrons will visit notable Cuban artists' studios, galleries and homes. They will discuss their work and their artistic visions and the state of Cuba's control of artistic expression. These personal encounters will help you understand cultural life in Cuba before the Revolution as well as today. Artwork will be for sale at all studios and galleries.

Cuban Cuisine and *Paladares*

The growing movement of private restaurants, or *paladares*, in family homes is flourishing in Havana. This movement is at the vanguard of economic change and private ownership in Cuba. The best dining in Cuba is in *paladares* along the backstreets and alleyways of Old and New Havana. The restaurants are being reviewed internationally and Havanaphiles are slowly finding their way to these wonderful free enterprise culinary destinations. All of our meals other than breakfast, will be in *paladares*. And, for the meals not included in the package, you will be given the names and locations of Havana's best private restaurants, all within walking distance from the Iberostar Marqués de la Torre.

Additional Activities In Support of the Cuban People

Meet with career Cuban diplomat Camilo García López-Trigo for a talk about US/Cuban relations. Dr. García is a professor at University of Havana International Relations School and an expert in US political studies. You will also visit a day care center run by The Sisters of the Love of God, see a classroom in session, learn about the remarkable work the sisters do for families in need and be inspired by the humanitarian work of their order.



Don't take our word for it! Here's what people said about our recent trip:

"A quick note to thank you for the most amazing trip of my life... the Cuban people have a great soul and an exuberant spirit which we experienced in their art and music and the wonderful small moments with them. Cuba is now in my heart."

—Geri F, New York, NY

"Those four days were filled with a wonderland of beautiful music, art, delicious food, and a welcoming vibe from everyone we met. We came for the music, but were treated to everything else beyond our dream."

—Natalie V and Richard L, Lake Worth, FL

"I cannot tell you enough how incredible the trip was. I am using the word 'transformational' with sincerity. The experiences continue to flood my brain...you put together an amazing trip for us."

—Susan O, Boulder, CO

"From day one, we were given intimate glimpses into the hearts and souls of the dancers, singers, musicians and teachers who shared their lives with us. We have been on many 'tours' to other countries but have never experienced anything as moving and beautiful as this."

—Thomas and Sally K, Tempe, AZ

"It would not be an exaggeration to say that our week in Cuba was life-changing. Although we had been to Cuba before, this visit provided an opportunity to experience the country's culture, food, history, vibrant music and artist community, and to meet some incredible people in a way that would be impossible otherwise. One of the highlights was observing Emmet Cohen and his trio give a masterclass to a school band. We are so grateful we had the chance to see Cuba with CR&V and would highly recommend them."

—Kim S and Ross M, Halifax, NS

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