

Gulf of Mexico



THE STARS OF WESTERN CUBA

SAILING FROM CHARMING CIENFUEGOS TO LEGENDARY HAVANA

FEATURING THE INTIMATE *VARIETY VOYAGER*
JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH, 2017

A PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL EXCHANGE



SET SAIL & DISCOVER CUBA'S CULTURAL & SCENIC WONDERS

Welcome aboard the *Variety Voyager*, a beautifully designed mega yacht that redefines traveling by sea. Providing accommodations for 72 privileged guests, this ultra-sleek vessel offers a truly intimate, distinctive cruising experience.

Experience the best of western Cuba—from the bayside charms of Cienfuegos to the faded colonial grandeur of Havana—on an exciting journey aboard the *Variety Voyager*. Take advantage of three days to peel back the layers of Cuba's historic capital, Havana, where jewel-toned vintage cars roll past towering cathedrals and art deco masterpieces. Watch lush scenery unfold at Guanahacabibes, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve brimming with colorful wildlife, and explore the turtle sanctuary at Cayo Largo, a secluded limestone island fringed with powdery white-sand beaches. Stroll cobble streets framed by pastel mansions in Trinidad, Cuba's Spanish colonial showpiece, and delve into the rich French heritage of Cienfuegos, the "Pearl of the South." All along the way, enjoy insider access to unique cultural activities and opportunities to interact with diverse Cuban citizens, including artists, musicians, historians, naturalists, and more.

Celebrate each day's adventures aboard the intimate *Variety Voyager*, combining contemporary style with relaxed charm. Treat yourself to delicious cuisine in the glass-enclosed dining room; take in magnificent views from the sundeck; mingle with fellow travelers in the lounge, featuring comfortable seating and a soft, inviting color palette; and retreat to your elegant stateroom, gracefully appointed with warm fabrics, marble details, and luxurious amenities.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS:

- 7-night voyage aboard the 72-guest *Variety Voyager*
- Select complimentary expert-led shore excursions daily
- 22 Meals: 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, and 7 dinners on board and at local Cuban restaurants and inviting "paladares"
- Complimentary beverages including coffee, water, juice, and soft drinks
- Complimentary beer and wine with dinner on board
- Private Go Next reception, including hot and cold canapés and beverages
- An experienced Go Next Program Manager
- Smart-casual attire throughout your journey—no formal wear required
- Attentive service from a caring staff to ensure a remarkable voyage
- Local English-speaking guide
- Comprehensive pre-departure information
- Certification of travel to Cuba under the U.S. Department of the Treasury general license
- Cuban travel insurance covering medical repatriation expenses only, as required by the Cuban government, valid only during your stay in Cuba

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfare between home and Cuba (may require scheduled and/or charter flights)
- Airport transfers
- Passport fees
- Onboard gratuities
- Port charges of \$470 per person
- Gratuities for local Cuban guides and drivers
- Cuban visa
- Cuban departure tax
- Hotels en route (if required for flights)

STATEROOM CATEGORIES

Lower Deck
 (Twin Beds or Double Bed)

C \$5,299

Lower/Main Deck
 (Twin Beds or Double Bed)

B \$6,999

Main Deck
 (Twin Beds or Double Bed)

A \$7,299

Upper Deck
 (Twin Beds or Double Bed)

P \$8,299

Upper Deck
 (Double Bed)

OS \$8,799

Prices are based on double occupancy and are subject to change.
 Air Services are available for an additional cost. Please call Go Next for details.

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DAY 1: Santa Clara/Cienfuegos, Cuba

Upon arrival in Santa Clara, board a motor coach and travel to Cienfuegos. The only Cuban city founded by French settlers, Cienfuegos spreads around a lovely natural bay and offers a superb model of 19th-century urban planning in Latin America. Before lunch, set out on a walking tour of the UNESCO-protected city center, home to the Government Palace (City Hall), San Lorenzo School, the Bishopric, the Ferrer Palace, and the former lyceum. Visit a graphic arts workshop, offering insight into the transformative power of art in the lives of Cubans, and stop at a local farmers market and CUC supermarket to learn about the country's dual-currency system. Sample the authentic flavors of Cuba at Los Laurelos, a local restaurant where you will enjoy lunch and a Salsa lesson. Then experience the city's thriving music scene with a performance by the award-winning Chorus of Cienfuegos. In the late afternoon, board the *Variety Voyager* and share a special Welcome Orientation and dinner with fellow travelers.

DAY 2: Trinidad, Cuba

Spanish colonial beauty reaches a pinnacle in wonderfully preserved Trinidad, a timeless little town that boasts 500 years of rich history and architectural majesty. Today, accompanied by a representative of the Office of the City Historian, experience a walking tour of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Stroll cobbled streets lined with colorful colonial mansions, magnificent churches, and pastel bell towers. Mingle with artists in their studios, including young female artists who are working to change the status of women in Cuban culture. View beautiful paintings, sculptures, and antiques at the Romantic Museum, housed in the gorgeous Palace of the Count Brunet, or perhaps browse the Architecture Museum. In the afternoon, take advantage of free time to discover more of this classic colonial town's highlights. Back on board, you can relax with a "Bon Voyage" Cocktail as the *Variety Voyager* sails the beautiful Bay of Casilda en route to Cayo Largo.

DAY 3: Cayo Largo, Cuba

Your excursion begins with a visit to a local clinic on Cayo Largo, an isolated island of white-sand beaches, mangroves, and salt pans. Interact with local doctors and nurses for a fascinating perspective on Cuba's healthcare system. Then learn about local conservation efforts at the Sea Turtle Breeding Center. After an early lunch at the Cayo Largo Marina, spend time snorkeling at a nearby coral reef before basking on the flawless sands of Playa Sirena, celebrated as one of the most stunning beaches in Cuba.

DAY 4: María la Gorda/Guanahacabibes National Park, Cuba

This morning, disembark via local tenders for a visit to the community of La Bajada. Stop at a local school to learn about Cuba's education system, particularly in the rural areas of the country, and engage with the children and their teachers. Next, connect with naturalists and locals at Guanahacabibes National Park, one of the country's largest nature reserves. Awash with a striking array of orchids and epiphytes, this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is a haven for butterflies, hummingbirds, and yellow-headed warbler. Today's lunch will be a BBQ on the beach with some time for a swim before returning to the yacht.

DAY 5: Havana, Cuba

After a leisurely breakfast and lunch on board, take in glorious panoramic views as you sail into the Bay of Havana. In the early afternoon, disembark and meet with dancers, musicians, and performers of the Habana Compas Dance Group. Under the instruction of choreographer Lillet Riviera, dancers combine unique props with traditional flamenco gestures and Cuban folkloric dance moves. Before returning to the *Variety Voyager* for dinner, explore more of Havana's flourishing art scene by visiting the studio of Dayumi, one of the city's emerging artists.

DAY 6: Havana, Cuba

Follow the footsteps of Ernest Hemingway on this full day tour of Havana and beyond. Travel by motor coach to Finca Vigia, the mansion where Hemingway lived for two decades and wrote some of his most famous literary works. For lunch, visit Finca El Divino, one of the area's finest restaurants. Here you'll witness a short presentation and cooking demonstration that showcases Cuba's sustainable urban agriculture. Continue to the neighborhood of renowned ceramicist and painter José Rodríguez Fuster, known as the "Picasso of the Caribbean." See how his creative vision has transformed the local area into a colorful, artistic landscape. Next, tour one of Cuba's largest cigar factories for a firsthand look at the cigar-making process. Following your sightseeing tour, you'll have free time to browse the San Jose Art Market, the largest art and souvenir shopping area in Havana. This evening, visit El Guajirito to meet with artists from the world-renowned Buena Vista Social Club and enjoy a late dinner and show.

DAY 7: Havana, Cuba

Today, head ashore to take in the magnificent sights of "Habana Vieja" (Old Havana), a UNESCO World Heritage Site filled with timeless Spanish colonial buildings, unique artist studios, and graceful plazas. Enjoy a Farewell Lunch at Moneda Cubana, a local paladar (privately owned restaurant) nestled in the heart of Old Havana. Spend the afternoon at leisure. Prior to dinner, Carpe Diem, a dynamic Cuban trio, will provide a special performance on board the *Variety Voyager*.

DAY 8: Havana, Cuba

After breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

Itinerary and sightseeing are subject to change.

Trip may operate in reverse order.

GO next PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return this form to reserve your space on an upcoming cruise aboard the Variety Voyager.

Please complete and send to:



8000 West 78th Street, Suite 345
Minneapolis, MN 55439-2538
800-842-9023 • 952-918-8950
Fax: 952-918-8975

PLEASE INDICATE ASSOCIATION/GROUP NAME:

PLEASE RESERVE SPACE FOR:

Cruise Name **Stars of Western Cuba** Departure Date _____

PLEASE NOTE: Airfare and airport transfers are not included.

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements. Please contact me/us to discuss air options.

Stateroom/Suite category requested: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ Bed Request Twin (2 beds) Double

Single accommodations are an additional cost and subject to availability. Request: Single

Full Name (as it appears on your passport)

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Title _____

Preferred name on name badge _____ M Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____ F _____ Citizenship _____

Full Name (as it appears on your passport)

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Title _____

Preferred name on name badge _____ M Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____ F _____ Citizenship _____

Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____

Roommate (if different from above) _____ Adjacency Request _____

DEPOSIT: A deposit of \$950 per person is required to pre-register for this sailing. Make checks payable to **Go Next**. Your deposit may also be made by credit card. All major credit cards are accepted.

I/We authorize Go Next, Inc. to charge my/our credit card for a deposit of \$ _____

Name (as it appears on your credit card) _____

SIGN HERE X _____ Billing address same as above

Billing Address (if different from above) _____

Card Number _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

LIMITED AVAILABILITY! SIGN UP NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE!

Call for additional information:
800-842-9023 or 952-918-8950
Fax: 952-918-8975
www.GoNext.com