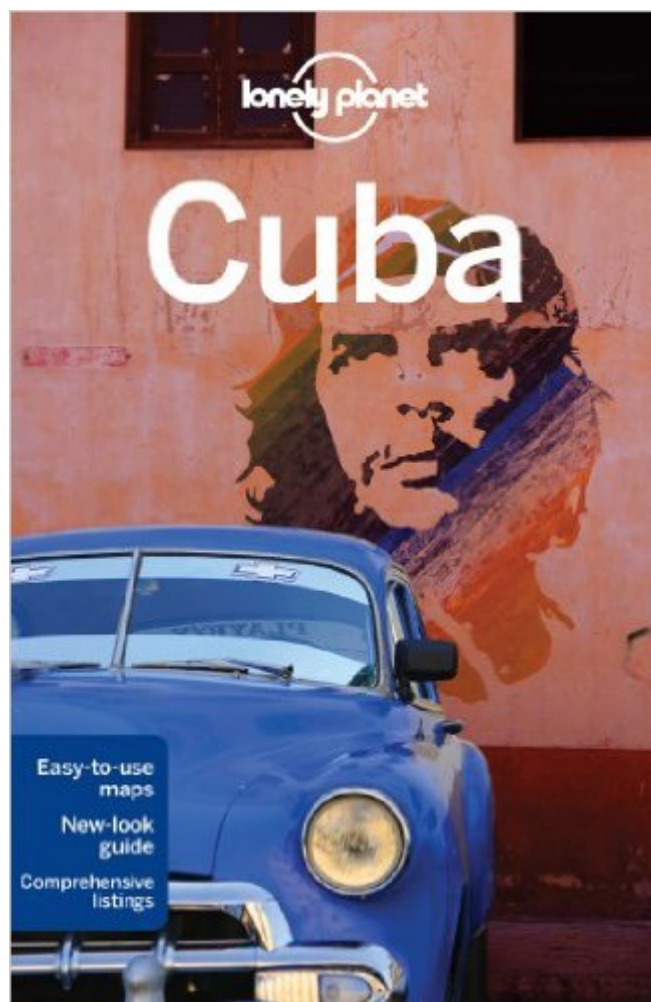


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# Lonely Planet Cuba (Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

#1 best-selling guide to Cuba\* Lonely Planet Cuba is your passport to all the most relevant and up-to-date advice on what to see, what to skip, and what hidden discoveries await you. Join in the live music scene to experience Cuba's legendary musical talent, cruise down the Malecon sea drive during sunset, or admire the casas particulares; all with your trusted travel companion. Get to the heart of Cuba and begin your journey now! Inside Lonely Planet Cuba Travel Guide: Color maps and images throughout Highlights and itineraries show you the simplest way to tailor your trip to your own personal needs and interests Insider tips save you time and money and help you get around like a local, avoiding crowds and trouble spots Essential info at your fingertips - including hours of operation, phone numbers, websites, transit tips, and prices Honest reviews for all budgets - including eating, sleeping, sight-seeing, going out, shopping, and hidden gems that most guidebooks miss Cultural insights give you a richer and more rewarding travel experience - including customs, history, art, literature, cinema, music, dance, politics, landscapes, and wildlife Free, convenient pull-out Havana map (included in print version), plus over 82 local maps Useful features - including Month-by-Month (annual festival calendar), Walking Tours, and Travel with Children Coverage of Havana, Pinar del Rio, Artemisa, Mayabeque, Isla de la Juventud, Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Villa Clara, Sancti Spiritus, Camaguey, Las Tunas, Granma, Holguin, Santiago de Cuba, Guantanamo, and more The Perfect Choice: Lonely Planet Cuba, our most comprehensive guide to Cuba, is perfect for those planning to both explore the top sights and take the road less travelled. Looking for more coverage? Check out Lonely Planet's Caribbean Islands guide for a comprehensive look at what the whole region has to offer. Authors: Written and researched by Lonely Planet, Brendan Sainsbury, and Luke Waterson. About Lonely Planet: Started in 1973, Lonely Planet has become the world's leading travel guide publisher with guidebooks to every destination on the planet, as well as an award-winning website, a suite of mobile and digital travel products, and a dedicated traveller community. Lonely Planet's mission is to enable curious travellers to experience the world and to truly get to the heart of the places they find themselves in. TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2012 and 2013 winner in Favorite Travel Guide category 'Lonely Planet guides are, quite simply, like no other.' - New York Times 'Lonely Planet. It's on everyone's bookshelves; it's in every traveller's hands. It's on mobile phones. It's on the Internet. It's everywhere, and it's telling entire generations of people how to travel the world.' - Fairfax Media (Australia) \*Bestselling guide to Cuba Source: Nielsen Bookscan. Australia, UK and USA, May 2012 to April 2013.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It is hard to write a guide to Cuba as things change daily if not more often. This guide was fairly useful in providing good background information for the areas I visited (Havana, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio). However, a number of items were missing. I could not find important sites I visited (for example, the Grand Synagogue in Havana, some popular paladars in Havana, hand-made book workshop and old pharmacy museum in Matanzas, Orchid Gardens in Pinar del Rio) I found the table of contents and index useless - I would look things up, they would not be listed, but then carefully pouring over the book, I would occasionally find the item I was searching. Also, the restaurant reviews were not on target. Many glowing reviews were not backed up by reality (and in Cuba, you have to have low expectations for food, but still, the reviews should be more honest). I also suspect many hotel reviews are not on target. Our hotel got a good review which it deserved, but we visited another hotel that the book gave a decent review to and found out it was cockroach infested and moldy from flooding. So, I would caution, be careful to double check hotel and food reviews on Trip Advisor.

Going to Cuba again in January and really needed this book to help me out. I also think it was a good read. You must not flash this around Cuba because your prices from the locals will go up seeing you like a tourist. You stand out like a sore thumb. Lay low and speak spanish if you can....

As a veteran traveler to Cuba I would NOT recommend this guide book. While the "getting to and

from" information is often accurate, what destroys this book as a pleasurable guide is the consistency of the writers' aimless and self-gratifying remarks on Cuba, its people, and all too often on places to stay, places to eat, and places of entertainment. Instead of clear observations and accurate information, they fill page after page with clever remarks and meant-to-be-funny pronouncements which serve no real guidance, especially for a first time traveler.

I have family in Cuba and have traveled there often. I purchased this hoping to find some undiscovered gems I haven't tried, but I did not. This book is great for a new traveler however I did not find this helpful. sometimes its best to ask the local if you know the language it is typically the best best. Again if you are new to Cuba, this is a great start.

Not bad if you want something to bring along with you. I'd say Tripadvisor will give you a more current idea of things to do and places to stay. One thing, if you're traveling from Mexico to Cuba and have Mexican bank cards you need to check if your card will work in Cuba. I have a card from Banamex that wouldn't work in Cuba because Banamex is part of the Citibank family based in the United States.

I am an avid world traveller and always purchase Lonely Planet prior to going to any country I visit. After my recent 2 week trip to Cuba, this is by far, the worst edition I have ever read/ owned. Basically useless. There is a new Cuba version coming out at the end of the year. Don't waste your time or \$\$ ordering this one. I wish I wouldn't have.

The kindle edition has -not surprisingly- omitted the interesting section of Cuban history. It has become a more or less shallow edition of the paperback [Phrases like "Kids! Get ready to travel!" are not common in the paperback edition. I am not happy with Lonely Planet after it was purchased by BBC. Oh well, another sign of invisible partialities.

I found some references, especially related to dining, to be out dated, and incomplete. There are a number of excellent private restaurants in Havana that are not mentioned. Likewise in Cienfuegos and Trinidad.

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