**BOULDER-CUBA SISTER CITY ORGANIZATION**

**Havana and Eastern Cuba, People to People/Educational Adventure**

**DATES: Oct 25-Nov 5 2015 (Flights for October are not yet confirmed. Please do not make any air reservations yet)**

**4 nights in Havana. Three or four star hotel in Old Havana. Flight to Santiago de Cuba. 2 nights Guantanamo. Visit to sister municipality Yateras near Guantánamo city, 3 nights Baracoa 1 night Cayo Saetía, 1 night Holguin**

**Proposed program:**

**Saturday Oct 24 meet at Miami Regency hotel, Miami, FL. for pre-trip meeting.**

**Sun Oct 25 charter flight Miami to Havana**

* We will be met at the José Martí airport by an air conditioned modern bus, and a bilingual Cuban guide.
* Lunch at typical Cuban restaurant
* Drive through Vedado and visit the Plaza de la Revolución, including the Martí museum and going to the top of the monument for a view of the city
* Drive along the Malecón to Old Havana
* Check in Hotel in Old Havana
* Welcome dinner at a favorite private restaurant

**Mon Oct 26 – Wed Oct 28 Havana**

Example of Activities in Havana

* Walking tour of Old Havana, UNESCO World Heritage site and the best preserved example of Spanish colonial architecture in the Americas. We will discuss historic preservation and daily life in Havana.
* Visit Vivero Alamar to discuss organic farming, including an organic lunch
* Visit a vocational school (art, architectural restauration, or circus training*)* to learn about Cuban educational system
* Discuss U.S.-Cuba relations with a representative of the Cuban Friendship Institute
* Visit the Revolution or Fine Arts museums
* Meet with a physician to learn about Cuban medical system
* Visit the University of Havana to discuss higher education
* Sample contemporary and classic Cuban cuisine in several new private restaurants
* Free time to shop for art or crafts (you make take back to the US $400 worth of items from Cuba including $100 worth of rum and cigars)
* Most evenings on your own for dining, concerts, dancing …

**Thursday Oct 29 early flight to Santiago de Cuba**

* Spend morning in Santiago, bus tour of historic sites including a visit to San Juan Hill; walking tour of historic center with a historian to talk about the Spanish settlement of Cuba
* Lunch at a private restaurant on Cayo Granma, a small island in Santiago Bay
* PM: Bus to Guantanamo
* Meet with representatives of the Cuban Friendship Institute and friends from the Association of Writers and Artists who have been to Boulder
* Visit the provincial art school where the province’s most talented dancers and musicians study
* Check in to modern Hotel Martí in central Guantanamo city
* Attend performance of Danza Libre or Tumba Francesa

**Friday Oct 30**

* Bus to sister municipality Yateras
* Visit a clinic, a school, music or dance venue and the senior center
* Lunch with city officials or at the Stone Zoo
* Hike at the amazing Stone Zoo
* Evening cultural activity in Guantanamo city

 **Sat Oct 31 travel to Baracoa crossing the mountains from the driest area in Cuba to the wettest**

* Lunch at Playa Imias with time for a dip in the Caribbean
* Evening dinner and discussion with Elexis Fernando Rubio at private restaurant El Buen Sabor . We will also learn how to make a typical Cuban dish from the restaurant’s owner/cook.

**Sun Nov 1, Mon Nov 2 Explore Baracoa**

* Visit artists’ studios with art historian Rosendo Romero
* Visit Archeology Museum in a cave above the city
* Learn about the banana and wood trade between Baracoa and the US at the City Museum
* Interact with members of an association for the blind
* Learn about traditional herbal medicine
* Try some of the best cuisine in Cuba at local private restaurants
* Listen to music or dance at one of Baracoa’s many music venues

**Tues Nov 3 Learn more about the natural richness of eastern Cuba: Visit Humboldt National Park (a UNESCO World Heritage site) and spend the night at a small island with a beautiful beach.**

* AM Early bus to Humboldt Park—discuss conservation with park personnel, hike to see endemic species, or boat ride around Taco Bay
* Picnic lunch at Park
* Bus to Cayo Saetía
* Overnight in Cayo Saetía with time for a swim

**Wed Nov 4 Travel along the north coast to the city of Holguin**

* 1:30 pm Visit Finca Las Manacas/Museo Conjunto Historico de Biran, on way to Holguin
* Overnight and farewell dinner in Holguin

**Thursday Nov 5 morning flight Holguin—Miami to arrive in time for a late afternoon flight back to Denver.**