Música de Cuba!
30th International Jazz Festival of Havana
With the Brubeck Institute
December 13-20, 2014

Join Simon Rowe, Executive Director of the Brubeck Institute, and a small group of jazz lovers for this culturally rich and musical journey to Cuba! Sponsored by famed Cuban musician Chucho Valdes and the Cuban Institute of Music, the International Jazz Festival of Havana showcases some of the biggest names in jazz, along with talented new artists. Enjoy the rhythm of Latin jazz in venues scattered throughout Havana. In addition to the festival, we’ll visit the National Museum of Fine Arts, Hemingway’s haunts, spend an evening at the Buena Vista Social Club and attend a special jazz workshop with Cuban musicians. Stroll the famous Malecon, wander in the picturesque historic center of Havana, lounge in a doorway in your Fedora and ride in a classic convertible, all to the sultry sounds of Cuban Jazz!

TRIP AT A GLANCE
1 Night Miami
6 Nights Historic Havana

WHERE YOU’LL BE STAYING...
Miami: Crowne Plaza airport hotel
Havana: The Historic 1930s **** Hotel Nacional

Earthbound Expeditions has been issued a license by the Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) authorizing us to organize and operate People to People programs to Cuba.
"My big fish must be somewhere."
Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man and the Sea

**IT’S INCLUDED**

- Accompanied by Simon Rowe, Executive Director of the Brubeck Institute
- An expert bilingual Cuban guide
- Tickets to jazz outings and rumba session
- A jazz workshop directed by respected Cuban jazz artists
- Buena Vista Social Club performance
- Accommodations as listed in itinerary
- Cuban government emergency medical insurance plan up to $1,000
- Multi-course traditional meals highlighting Cuban cuisine
  (all meals included except for 1 breakfast and 1 dinner)
- Bottled water daily & national drinks (local beers & mojitos)
- Live music while dining and 4 included evening jazz concerts
- Transport by private motor coach while in Cuba
- Roundtrip charter flight from Miami
- All entrances as listed in your itinerary
- Airport transfers while in Cuba
- Special insider “people to people” experiences
- Gratuities for your driver and guides
- City and country maps
- An informational gathering in Miami the night before departing for Cuba

**TRIP FACTS**

8 Days/7 Nights
$4,475 pp dbl (*land and charter air from Miami to Havana*)
$ 675 Single Suppl. (*waived if you are willing to share*)
Starting in Miami at 8:00pm on December 13, 2014
Returning to Miami Int’l airport on December 20-
(*exact charter time TBA*)

**NOT INCLUDED:** Air from your home city to/from Miami * Cuba visa fee of $75 * Travel Insurance up and above the included $1,000 mandatory medical * Cuban airport departure tax of $30 * Extra baggage fees * Items not mentioned in your itinerary

**RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS:** Please telephone Earthbound’s travel office at 800.723.8454 or visit us online at [www.earthboundexpeditions.com](http://www.earthboundexpeditions.com)
Note: A $500 deposit is required to reserve your space on this very special journey. Deposits and payments are accepted by check or direct bank transfer only for all journeys to Cuba.
"What is interesting in this is the exchange of music that occurred between New Orleans and Cuba, I mean, they had ferries that would go from one port to another."
Ruben Blades

Your Jazz Adventure begins...

Day 1: Saturday, December 13 ~ Arrive in Miami
8:00PM: Meet your host, Simon Rowe, in our private reception room at the Crowne Plaza hotel for a welcome orientation. The Crowne Plaza hotel is just 10 minutes away from the airport. The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport.  

Sleep in Miami

Day 2: Sunday, December 14 ~ Depart Miami & Arrive in Historic Havana
Early this morning depart your hotel for the airport to check in for our charter flight from Miami to Havana, Cuba. Charter flight times are not released until one month prior to departure. Your airline tickets and Cuban visas will be given to you when you check-in for your flight.

After clearing Cuban immigrations and customs, you are welcomed by your Cuban National guide outside the terminal, who will assist with a private transfer to Old Havana (Habana Vieja) where you’ll sample some of Cuba’s traditional dishes in one of Havana’s charming old cafes. After lunch, our skilled local guide leads us on an insightful stroll through the colorful cobblestone streets of historic Havana.

In the late afternoon check into the historic 1930’s Nacional Hotel located on the Malecón seafront. Relax in a comfy wicker couch on the terrace or enjoy a stroll on the waterfront before meeting your guide and host for a welcome dinner at one of Havana’s best known, privately owned Paladars.  
Sleep in Havana at the Historic Nacional Hotel (L, D)

Day 3: Monday, December 15 ~ Cuba’s National Art Schools, an Education in Santeria & Rumba
This morning we visit the Plaza de la Revolucion, the Cemetery of Christopher Columbus, and the Miramar area before continuing on to Cuba’s National Art Schools (Instituto Superior de Arte), whose structures are considered by historians to be one of the most outstanding architectural achievements of the Cuban Revolution. These innovative, organic Catalan-vaulted brick and terra-cotta buildings were built on the site of a former country club in the far western Havana suburb of Cubanacán, which used to be Havana’s "Beverly Hills" and was then mainly reserved for Communist Party officials. The schools were conceived and founded by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara in 1961, and they reflect the utopian optimism and revolutionary exuberance of the early years of the Cuban Revolution. Over their years of active use, the schools served as the primary incubator for Cuba’s artists, musicians, actors, and dancers. The schools’ design fell out of favor by 1965 and was nearly completely decommissioned until preservation efforts were mounted.

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in force in the 1990’s. Now tentatively on the list of World Heritage sites, they are in use, though still in various states of disrepair.

To learn more about the National School of Arts visit the New York Times or click here: [http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/16/world/americas/cuba-debates-carlos-acostas-dream-project.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/16/world/americas/cuba-debates-carlos-acostas-dream-project.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)

Lunch today is served at El Aljibe Restaurant located in the elegant Miramar section of Havana.

Then we depart for the “Cabildo Quisicuaba Socio-Cultural Project” which is conducted by Dr. Enrique Alemán in collaboration with the community in the Centro Habana municipality, specifically in the Los Sitios neighborhood. The aim of this project is to rehabilitate traditional folk culture there, taking into account the spiritual, cultural and material needs of this population.

Here we’ll also have the chance to visit a private Santeria house. The Santeria religion is a system of beliefs that merges the Yoruba religion (which was brought to the New World by enslaved West Africans sent to the Caribbean to work on sugar plantations) with Roman Catholic and Native American traditions. These Africans carried with them various religious customs, including a trance for communicating with their ancestors and deities, animal sacrifice and sacred drumming and dance.

In addition we’ll attend a neighborhood Rumba performance.

**Cultural Note:** In 1985 the Cuban Minister of Culture stated the obvious: "Rumba without Cuba is not rumba, and Cuba without rumba is not Cuba." Today Cuban rumba is a genre involving dance, percussion, and song. There are three main forms: yambú, guaguancó, and columbia. Rumba is an amalgamation of several transplanted African dance and drumming traditions, combined with Spanish influences.

We’ll have dinner together accompanied by another live musical performance. A jazz outing will be offered after dinner for anyone interested. *Sleep in Havana (B, L, D)*

**Day 4: Tuesday, December 16 ~ The History of Dance and Conservatorio Guillermo Tomas**

Early birds may wish to soak up the sun and walk along the Malecon before breakfast. Then we’ll set off to the Havana Country Club to learn about the history of music and dance in Cuba. Multiple instructors will explain how this small island became a major powerhouse when it comes to both. The Cha Cha Cha, Rumba, Salsa and Merengue all come from Cuba. After a thorough demonstration you’ll be invited to learn some of the dances with the instructors.

This afternoon we’ll visit the Conservatorio Guillermo Tomas. When the musicians of Jazz at Lincoln Center went to Havana, they loved each of the four schools they visited. One that particularly touched their hearts however, was Conservatorio Guillermo Tomás,
located just outside Havana in one of the poorer districts, Guanabacoa. There the kids played for the musicians, the musicians played for the kids, and it quickly became clear that none of them will ever forget the exchange.

There are 500 students ranging in age from 8 to 19. Gifted students enter the school at an early age, and study at academic and musical subjects for the next 10 years. The 40 students that graduate every year go on to join the best symphony, chamber and popular orchestras, or become music professors for new students.

Trumpeter Marcus Printup says that as they toured the building, he had tears in his eyes, because the kids were so soulful. The extraordinary Latin music producer, Rene Lopez, was dazzled by the sheer knowledge and sweetness of the questions the kids asked, and Wynton Marsalis danced salsa with one of the instructors. Many of the musicians mentioned the number of broken instruments that they saw at Guillermo Tomás. We’d like to try and do something about that.

Dinner this evening is at another of Havana’s wonderful Paladars. Join your host this evening for an included evening jazz concert.  

Day 5: Wednesday, December 17 ~ A day with Hemingway, Museum of Fine Arts & Jazz Workshop

This morning we're off to visit Finca Vigía [Lookout Farm] where North America's literary giant, Ernest Hemingway, spent twenty-one of his most important and productive years penning building blocks of English literature. Claimed by both the United States and Cuba as their son, it was Hemingway himself who declared the island his true home. Before returning to Havana we stop by the quaint fishing village of Cojimar which served as the setting for “The Old Man and the Sea.”

After lunch this afternoon, we visit the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes (National Museum of Fine Arts), known for its international and Cuban art. The comprehensive Colección de Arte Cubano comprises three floors of art, spanning works from the 16th to the 20th Centuries by prominent Cuban artists concentrating mostly on pieces from the 20th Century.

Across the street from the Fine Arts Museum is the impressive Museum of the Revolution. Sitting outside you’ll find the American Jeeps and planes used during the failed Bay of Pigs landing. Also worth noting, the yacht named “Granma” that was used to transport 82 Cuban fighters and Fidel Castro to the shores of Cuba from Mexico in 1956.

Enjoy lunch and then return to the Nacional hotel for a jazz workshop which will be led by some of Cuba’s most respected jazz artists.

Tour highlight this evening: We behold a most dramatic ceremony – El Cañonazo – the Firing of the 9PM Cannon at the Fortress of San Carlos de la Cabaña. This enchanting colonial reenactment dates back to 1519 when the city of Havana was enclosed by a tall, thick rock wall to ward off attacks from pirates and the English. The cannon firing signaled the closing of the city gates for the night. If you were outside at the time, you were in "vedado" or the forbidden zone. We return to the hotel. For those interested we can venture off to one of Havana's many popular jazz clubs. Sleep in Havana (B, L)
Day 6: Thursday, December 18 ~ Architecture Walk and Sacred Marriage Ceremony...of Cigars and Rum
One of Havana’s many charms is the “elegant decay” of the buildings. Enjoy a stroll today that focuses on the splendid architecture of this city, unlike anywhere in the world.

Have lunch together and if available, tour a cigar factory or cigar rolling demonstration. Then, you are invited to partake in a very special marriage ceremony...of rum and cigars! One can’t come to Cuba without appreciating these two fixtures of Cuban culture. Sleep in Havana (B, L, D)

About Benny Moré (Bartolomé Maximiliano Moré Gutiérrez, 24 August 1919 – 19 February 1963), or Beny, was a Cuban singer. He is often thought of as the greatest Cuban popular singer of all time. He was gifted with an innate musicality and fluid tenor voice which he colored and phrased with great expressivity. Moré was a master of most genres of Cuban music, such as the son montuno, mambo, guaracha, and bolero. Moré also formed and led the leading Cuban big band. The “Orquesta Aragón” was swinging from 1950s, until his death in 1963.

Day 7: Friday, December 19 ~ National Botanical Garden and Las Terrazas
After breakfast, we’ll visit the National Botanical Garden in the outskirts of Havana and enjoy a tour of the grounds.

Then we depart for Las Terrazas. En-route we’ll travel through the lush countryside planted with sugar cane, corn, rice, and taro. With few vestiges of modernization, the region seems set back in time with farming communities still harvesting by hand and using horse and carts to transport goods to free markets. (The horse carts date back to the 15th century when the Spaniards used them to haul sugar cane to the factories). Las Terrazas in Pinar del Rio province is now part of UNESCO’s Biosphere Reserve, much of it reforested coffee plantation.

Upon arrival enjoy a traditional lunch at a local farm, Casa del Campesino.

ABOUT THE ARTIST OF LAS TERRAZAS
This afternoon you’ll meet Lester Campas and his artisans in his studio at Las Terrazas. Mr. Campas is a young artist known for his unique paper recycling process, which he then uses for artistic expressions. Your guide will lead a people to people discussion with Campa and our travelers about recycled art in the US and Cuba. This movement to recycle in Cuba is not new – it was born out of the necessity in the late 1990s during the “special period” when Russia collapsed leaving Cuba without a major donor and trading partner.

Upon our return to Havana we stop at the private home and studio of famed Cuban artist, Jose Fuster who is known as the Picasso of the Caribbean. Mr. Fuster is a ceramicist and painter whose work has contributed to the upgrading of his entire community. Aside from discussing how he makes his art, he talks about how he started giving back to his
community. When you drive through the neighborhood which is known as “Fusterlandia” you see ceramic tiled walls in fanciful designs. His first ceramic work was a gift to his neighbor who was a nurse. He transformed her front yard into a Disneyland of ceramic animals and mythical figures. Later, another neighbor asked for the identical work for his house. Soon Fuster was doing this free work for all his neighbors, which attracted many tourists and led to his popularity. As you learn about his work, you may be able to purchase his art directly if desired.

Our early dinner this evening will be served at Paladar Doña Carmela which is located close to the Fortress of San Carlos de la Cabaña.  *Sleep in Havana (B, L, D)*

**Day 8: Saturday, December 20 ~ Depart Cuba for Miami**

We transfer to Havana’s Jose Marti Airport where we check in for our flight to Miami. *(Charter flight time TBA)*. Buen Viaje! (B)

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**Where you’ll be staying in Havana: The Hotel Nacional**

The historic **** Hotel Nacional is located on the Malecón seafront. The decision to build a luxury hotel was taken in the late 1920s. The American firms McKim, Mead & White and Purdy & Henderson Co., tasked with the planning and construction, completed the palatial edifice in 14 months. Note: The same firm designed Penn Station, Washington Square in NY. The hotel exhibits an eclectic architectural style, reflecting Art Deco, Arabic references, features of Hispano-Moorish architecture, and both neo-classical and neo-colonial elements. There are even details from the centuries-old Californian style. The resulting unique example of so many schools of architecture is the most unusual and interesting hotel in the Caribbean region. Among its first illustrious guests were artists, actors, athletes and writers such as Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner, Mickey Mantle, Johnny Weissmuller, Buster Keaton, Jorge Negrete, Agustín Lara, Rocky Marciano, Tyrone Power, Rómulo Gallegos, Errol Flynn, John Wayne, Marlene Dietrich, Gary Cooper, Marlon Brando and Ernest Hemingway. In February 1946, Sir Winston Churchill visited Cuba, staying in the hotel's Republica Suite, and was accorded diplomatic privileges by the Cuban government. In December 1946 it hosted an infamous mob summit run by Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky and attended by Santo Trafficante, Jr., Frank Costello, Albert Anastasia, Vito Genovese and many others. Francis Ford Coppola memorably dramatized the conference in his film *The Godfather Part II*. Note: The Cuban government rates the Nacional hotel as a 5 star. Although it is very charming, I think most international travelers would agree that it is more in line with a superior 3 star in North America. That said, if traveling to Havana this is the place to be!
THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...
Cuba is a developing country and still lacks many modern conveniences. It’s not unusual to experience short power black-outs or to find that your hot water, internet, TV or phone in your hotel room does not work properly (or at all). Further, the Cuban government and incoming Havana agency has the right to change the itinerary without notice (and often does). We’ll be travelling under a “people to people” license, which means that our days will be filled with many educational experiences. They will begin around 8:30am and end around 5:00pm. This is not a trip for those looking for a leisurely, beach holiday. Travelers who arrive in Havana with sense of humor, an open mind and are ready to be flexible will absolutely fall in love with the people and culture of Cuba.

RESERVATIONS
Reservations and Deposits: Early reservations are essential to guarantee space on the date you wish to travel. A per person deposit of $500 is needed to confirm your space on most journeys (please see section entitled RESERVATIONS on your Earthbound itinerary for specifics). Deposits and final payments must be made by check or money order for all Cuba journeys. Deposits are refundable for 30 days from the date received or 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. A $75 dollar per person processing fee will be applied to all cancellations, regardless of when they are made. Once the deposit is processed, a deposit packet is sent with pertinent journey details.

Final Payment: You will be sent an invoice approximately 75 days prior to departure, which will include any currency price reductions or additions. A non-refundable final payment, payable by money order or check, is due 60 days before departure. It is the responsibility of each passenger to make a timely payment. A final packet of information will be sent approximately one month before departure. Mail payments to: Earthbound Expeditions PO Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110, USA.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be made in writing and are effective upon receipt in our office. Deposits are fully refundable for 30 days from the processing date or 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. Deposits made 90 days prior to a trip departing are not refundable. A $75 per person processing fee applies to all cancellations.

No refunds are made for cancellations after the non-refundable deposit date. It is for this reason we strongly encourage the purchase of travel insurance at the same time you reserve your journey with us. Please refer to your specific journey details, especially private and hosted journeys, as policies may differ.

We Look Forward to Traveling with You!
CUBAN VISA/ RESERVATION FORM
Havana International Jazz Festival
December 13-20, 2014

First Name:
Middle Name:
Last Name:
Mother’s Maiden Name:
Country of Birth:
Date of Birth:
Passport Number:
Date of Issue:
Date of Expiry:
Nationality:
Male or Female:
Address:
City:
State:
Zip:
Home Phone Number:
Email Address:
Emergency Contact Name & number:

Special Requests:

* If you were born in Cuba and emigrated to the United States prior to 1974 you must obtain a special visa from the Cuban Interest Section in Washington D.C. Please contact our office for more information.