The U.S.-Cuba Hemingway Commemorative Project: Protecting the Natural Resources of the Florida Straits

September 7-13, 2014

Sunday, Sept. 7
11:30 am  Meet in Concourse G to check in for flight to Havana with Gulfstream Charters.
3:30 pm  Depart on Flight MQ-9520.
4:30 pm  Arrive at José Martí International Airport, Terminal 2. Meet Havanatur Celimar representatives and guide Elio Cordero and transfer to the Hotel Ambos Mundos. Check in to hotel, Ernest Hemingway’s home (room 511) in the 1930s.
7:00 pm  Welcome cocktails at the Hotel Ambos Mundos
9:00 pm  Dinner at Nao Bar Paladar in Old Havana

Monday, Sept. 8
7-8:00 am  Breakfast at the hotel.
8:30 am  Drive to the Hemingway International Nautical Club at the Marina Hemingway.
9:00 am  Meet with Commodore Escrich and invited guests and then board fishing boats, reminiscent of Hemingway’s Pilar, for the trip to Cojimar.
11:30 am  Arrive in Cojimar, which Hemingway used as inspiration for The Old Man and the Sea.
12:00 pm  Lunch with guests at La Terraza, Hemingway’s local restaurant.
2:00 pm  After lunch explore the town and talk with the municipal historian and local fishermen about current ocean/fishing conditions. Small ceremony commemorating the 80th anniversary of Hemingway sailing his fishing boat Pilar to Cuba from Key West for the first time.
4:00 pm  Depart Cojimar and tour Havana harbor before returning to Hemingway Marina.
7:00 pm  Reception and review of the day at the Hemingway International Nautical Club, hosted by Commodore Escrich.
9:00 pm  Return to the Ambos Mundos. Remainder of the evening free.

Tuesday, Sept. 9
7-8:00 am  Breakfast at the hotel.
8:30  Walking tour of Old Havana with a staff member of the Office of the Historian of the City.
10:30 am  Free time for exploring Old Havana, its museums and architecture.
1:00 pm  Lunch
2:30 pm  Return to the Hotel Ambos Mundos and the Salón Plaza de Armas for a literary peña or discussion/presentation on the life and work of Hemingway in Cuba with Ciro Bianchi a journalist and one of the heads of UNEAC, the Union of Writers and Artists, and the writer Leonardo Padura whose recent work focused on Hemingway.
5:00 pm  Cocktail party on the roof terrace of the Hotel Ambos Mundos.
7:00 pm  Dinner at a Hemingway favorite, La Bodeguita del Medio.

Wednesday, Sept. 10
7-8:00 am  Breakfast at the hotel.
8-9:00 am: U.S.-Cuba group policy briefing and discussion at the hotel, led by Mavis Anderson and Jeffrey Boutwell
10:00:  Morning free for exploring Old Havana
11:30 pm  Lunch at the private restaurant Elite.
Wednesday, Sept. 10 (con.)
2:00 pm Visit to the Marine Research Center of the University of Havana, in Miramar. Meeting with Director Dr. Jorge Angulo Valdés and other Cuban marine experts for discussion of U.S.-Cuba research project on highly migratory species in the Florida Straits.
4:00 pm Meeting with Amb. Jeffrey DeLaurentis, Head, US Interests Section at his residence
5:00 pm Reception hosted by Amb. Jeffrey DeLaurentis at his residence

Thursday, Sept. 11
7-8:00 am Breakfast at the hotel.
9:30 am Visit to the National Aquarium of Cuba for a panoramic view of the scientific and educational environmental education programs of the aquarium, meeting with Vice Director Dr. Julio A. Baisre and staff.
Mid day Lunch at El Aljibe Restaurant in Miramar.
3:00 pm Visit to Finca Vigía, the Hemingway house and museum, in San Francisco de Paula. Tour inside the house and grounds, including the restored Pilar, and hold a short commemorative ceremony and reception honoring Hemingway’s award of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954. Organized by Finca Director Ada Rosa Alfonso and Yelsy Hernandez of the National Council of Cultural Heritage.
8:00 pm Dinner at San Cristobal restaurant

Friday, Sept. 12
7-8:00 am Breakfast at the hotel.
9:00 am Visit the San Ajelando School of Fine Arts and talk to students and professors about their work in the fine and applied arts.
11:00 am Visit the Literacy Museum in School City, Ciudad Libertad. The museum houses mementos and information on the 1961 Cuban Literacy Campaign waged by thousands of young people with a goal of universal literacy and also houses information on the Yo Sí Puedo Cuban literacy system now being used in countries around the world towards the same goal.
1:30 pm Lunch
Afternoon: Explore Old Havana
5:00 pm Group discussion at Hotel Ambos Mundos on people-to-people experiences during the trip and follow-on projects and activities.
6:30 pm Daquiries at the Floridita Bar
7:30 pm Farewell dinner at El Templete in Old Havana.

Saturday, Sept. 13
7-8:00 am Breakfast at the hotel
9:00 am Group discussion wrap-up, led by Mavis Anderson and Jeffrey Boutwell.
12:00 pm Check out of hotel. Transfer to the airport
3:00 pm Depart on FA-253 for Miami, with arrival scheduled for 4:00 pm. End of Program.

Travel services provided by Common Ground Education & Travel Services
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