

Contents

List of Maps	vi
---------------------	----

What's New in Cuba	1
---------------------------	---

1 The Best of Cuba	3
---------------------------	---

by Eliot Greenspan & Neil E. Schlecht

1 The Best Cuban Travel Experiences	3	7 The Best Hotels	9
2 The Best Historical Sights	4	8 The Best Casas Particulares	10
3 The Best of Natural Cuba	5	9 The Best Restaurants & Paladares	11
4 The Best Outdoor Adventures	6	10 The Best of Cuban Nightlife	12
5 The Best Beaches	7	11 The Best of Cuba Online	13
6 The Best Resort Hotels	8		

2 Planning Your Trip to Cuba	14
-------------------------------------	----

by Eliot Greenspan

1 The Regions in Brief	14	9 Planning Your Trip Online	33
2 Visitor Information	17	<i>Frommers.com: The Complete Travel Resource</i>	34
3 Entry Requirements & Customs	18	10 Getting There	34
<i>Gifts & Other Assistance</i>	21	11 Escorted Tours, Package Deals & Special-Interest Vacations	36
4 Money	22	12 Getting Around	38
5 When to Go	24	13 Tips on Accommodations	41
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	25	14 Tips on Dining	42
6 Insurance, Health & Safety	27	15 The Active Vacation Planner	43
7 Specialized Travel Resources	30	16 Suggested Itineraries	45
<i>Race Relations in Cuba</i>	31	17 Recommended Reading	46
8 The 21st-Century Traveler	32	<i>Fast Facts: Cuba</i>	47
<i>Online Traveler's Toolbox</i>	33		

3 Havana	52
-----------------	----

by Eliot Greenspan

1 Orientation	52	4 Where to Dine	76
<i>The Neighborhoods in Brief</i>	55	5 What to See & Do	83
2 Getting Around	58	<i>Suggested Itineraries</i>	83
<i>Fast Facts: Havana</i>	61	<i>A Quick Key to Havana's Parks & Plazas</i>	86
3 Where to Stay	63		

iv CONTENTS

<i>Frommer's Favorite Havana Experiences</i>	89	7 Shopping	94
6 Outdoor Pursuits	92	8 Havana After Dark	98
		9 Side Trips from Havana	102

4 Viñales & Western Cuba 103

by Eliot Greenspan

1 Pinar del Río	103	4 Cayo Levisa	116
<i>Smoke 'Em If You Got 'Em</i>	105	5 María la Gorda	118
2 Viñales	107	6 Isla de la Juventud	119
3 Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve & San Diego de los Baños	112	7 Cayo Largo del Sur	123

5 Varadero & Matanzas Province 126

by Eliot Greenspan

1 Matanzas	126	3 The Zapata Peninsula & Playa Girón	142
2 Varadero	129	<i>The Bay of Pigs</i>	144

6 Trinidad & Central Cuba 146

by Eliot Greenspan & Neil E. Schlecht

1 Santa Clara	146	<i>Beny Moré</i>	157
<i>Che Guevara</i>	149	3 Trinidad	160
2 Cienfuegos	153	4 Sancti Spiritus	172

7 Camagüey & the Northeastern Coast 178

by Neil E. Schlecht

1 Cayo Coco & Cayo Guillermo	178	<i>Papa & the Cayos</i>	181
<i>A Bridge So Far</i>	180	<i>A Stopover in Morón</i>	183
		2 Camagüey	187

8 El Oriente 199

by Neil E. Schlecht

1 Guardalavaca	199	<i>Dear Granma</i>	215
2 Bayamo & the Sierra Maestra	210	<i>Goin' (or Not) to Gitmo</i>	219
		3 Baracoa	220

9 **Santiago de Cuba** 228

by Neil E. Schlecht

<p>1 Orientation229 <i>Santiago, City of Struggle & Rebellion</i>232</p> <p>2 Getting Around233 <i>Fast Facts: Santiago de Cuba</i>234</p> <p>3 Where to Stay235</p> <p>4 Where to Dine238</p>	<p>5 What to See & Do240</p> <p>6 Shopping245</p> <p>7 Santiago de Cuba After Dark246 <i>Carnival & Other Santiago Festivals</i>248</p> <p>8 Side Trips from Santiago de Cuba249</p>
--	---

Appendix A: Cuba in Depth 253

by Neil E. Schlecht

<p>1 History 101253</p> <p>2 Cuba Today258</p>	<p>3 Cuban Culture262</p>
--	--

Appendix B: Useful Spanish Terms & Phrases 266

<p>1 Basic Words & Phrases266</p> <p>2 More Useful Phrases267</p>	<p>3 Some Typically Cuban Words & Phrases268</p>
---	---

Index 270

List of Maps

The Regions in Brief	16	Cienfuegos	155
Havana at a Glance	53	Trinidad	161
La Habana Vieja & Centro Habana	56	Sancti Spíritus	173
Vedado	57	Cayo Coco & Cayo Guillermo	179
Playa	59	Camagüey	189
The Viñales Valley	109	El Oriente	201
Varadero	130	Bayamo	213
Santa Clara	147	Baracoa	221
		Santiago de Cuba	230